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*Open Space Element of the
Palo Alto General Plan*

Revised April 1973

2005
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RESOLUTION NO. 5518

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO
AMENDING THE OPEN SPACE PLAN MAP OF THE CITY OF PALO
ALTO TO CONFORM WITH THE LAND USE MAP OF THE
PALO ALTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, on April 23, 1973, the Council of the City of Palo Alto did, by Resolution No. 4728, adopt The Open Space Plan of the City of Palo Alto including an Open Space Plan Map; and,

WHEREAS, on November 29, 1976, the Council did, by Resolution No. 5291, adopt the Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan, including a Land Use Map; and,

WHEREAS, the Council desires to make certain amendments to The Open Space Plan to have it conform with said Land Use Map.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The Open Space Plan Map of the City of Palo Alto is hereby amended by redesignating those certain parcels of land shown on the map attached hereto as EXHIBIT "A" and incorporated herein by this reference to and from the various open space designations of the Open Space Plan Map as shown on said EXHIBIT "A".

SECTION 2. The Council hereby finds that the adoption of this resolution will not have any significant environmental effects.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: February 13, 1978

AYES: Brenner, Carey, Clay, Eyerly, Fazzino, Fletcher, Henderson, Sher, Witherspoon

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

.....
City Clerk

..... FOR SIGNATURES SEE ORIGINAL
ON FILE IN CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.
.....
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

.....
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED:

.....
Director of Planning and
Community Environment

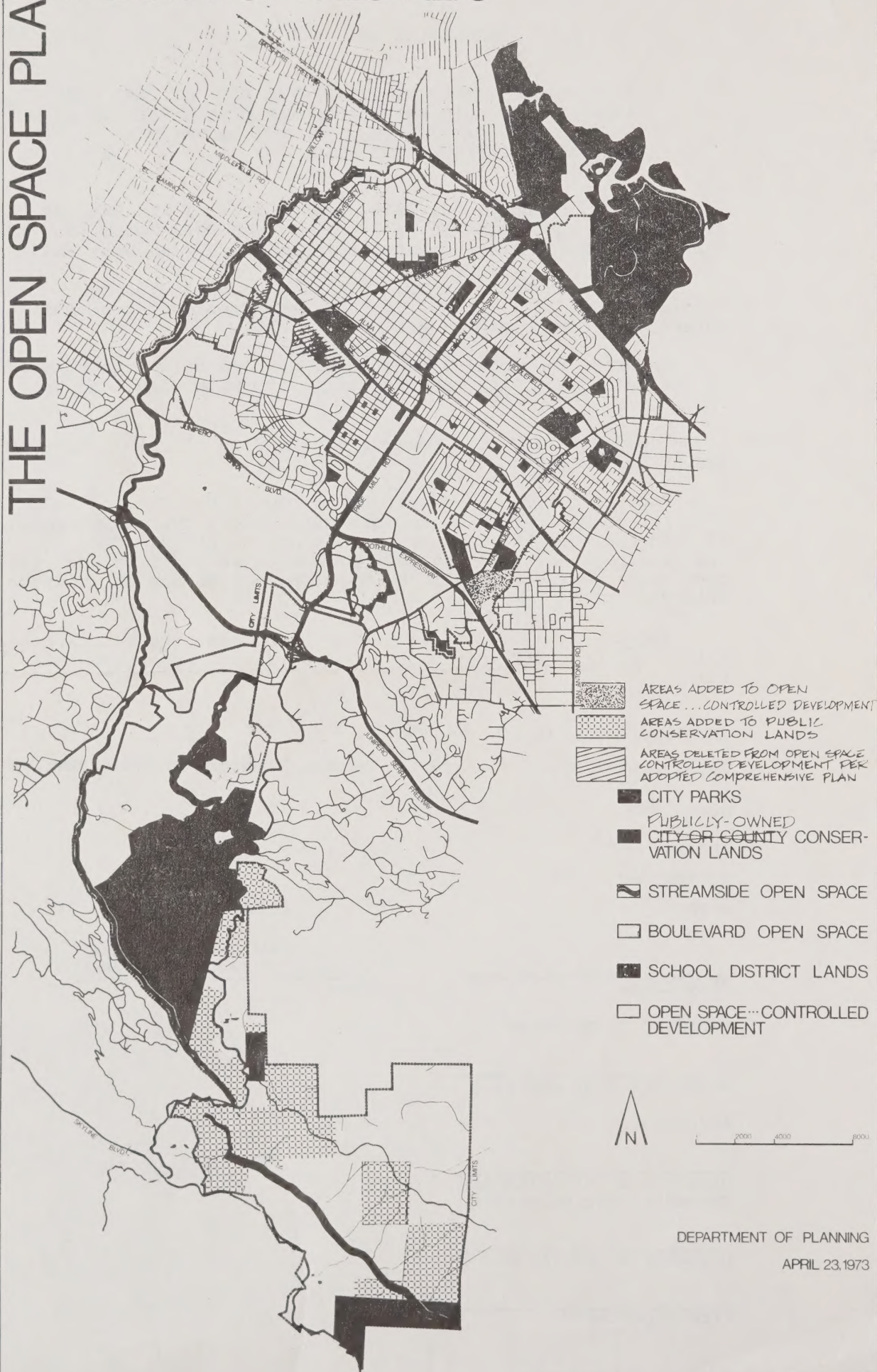
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Director of Public Works

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Fire Department

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SAN FRANCISCO BAY CONSERVATION
& DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

THE CITY OF PALO ALTO



2005
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RESOLUTION NO. 4728

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO
MAKING NUMEROUS AMENDMENTS TO THE OPEN SPACE ELEMENT
OF THE GENERAL PLAN AS CERTIFIED TO THE CITY COUNCIL
BY RESOLUTION NO. 164 OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

ADOPTED ON MARCH 14, 1973

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has duly prepared and recommended for adoption certain additions and amendments to the Open Space Element of the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, and the Planning Commission, after having held a public hearing on such proposed amendments on February 14, 1973, and March 14, 1973, pursuant to the provisions of Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080, has certified such additions and amendments to the City Council recommending their incorporation into the Open Space Element of the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has also held a public hearing on the adoption of such additions and amendments, pursuant to Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080 on April 23, 1973, notice of the time and place of which was published and given in the manner provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The Open Space Element of the General Plan, adopted by the City Council in Resolution No. 4585, hereby is amended in part to read as indicated in the descriptive materials, true copies of which are attached hereto:

1. Descriptive matter being page 19 through page 23, marked Exhibit "A" (replacing page 19 and page 20 and relating to the Baylands and the Open Space Action Programs).
2. Descriptive matter being pages B-4, B-5, and B-7 (replacing pages B-4, B-5, and B-7 and relating to the Baylands) and a map entitled "BAYLANDS PLANT ZONES," dated February 10,

1973, numbered page B-19 (adding a map designating plant zones for the Baylands), marked Exhibit "B".

3. Descriptive matter being page E-1 through page E-7 (adding an appendix on detailed goals and policies for the Baylands) and page F-1 (adding an appendix on map definitions for the Open Space Plan), marked Exhibit "C".
4. A map entitled "THE OPEN SPACE PLAN," which will be dated April 23, 1973, which will be placed at the end of the Open Space Element of the General Plan, and which will be marked Exhibit "D" (replacing the two maps entitled "OPEN SPACE LANDS: URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS" and "OPEN SPACE LANDS: FOOTHILLS," following the present page 20), a presentation map of which was approved by the City Council on April 23, 1973.

SECTION 2. Said Open Space Element of the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto shall be endorsed to show that the maps and descriptive materials contained therein have been so amended by the City Council of the City of Palo Alto.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: April 23, 1973

AYES: Beahrs, Berwald, Clark, Comstock, Henderson, Norton, Pearson,
Rosenbaum, Seman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Ann J. Tanner
City Clerk

/s/ Kirke W. Comstock
Mayor

APPROVED:

/s/ G. A. Sipel
City Manager

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

/s/ Naphtali H. Knox
Director of Planning

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ M. D. Norek
Assistant City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 164

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY
OF PALO ALTO RECOMMENDING NUMEROUS AMENDMENTS TO
THE OPEN SPACE ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto, the City Council of the City of Palo Alto on April 17, 1972, did amend the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto in Resolution No. 4585 by adding an Open Space Element to the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has further studied said Open Space Element since April 17, 1972; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission finds that various parts of the Open Space Element have become obsolete and that changed conditions require additions and amendments to said Open Space Element; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on numerous proposed additions and amendments to the Open Space Element of the General Plan on February 14, 1973, and March 14, 1973, pursuant to the provisions of Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080, notice of the time and place of which was published and given in the manner provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The Planning Commission recommends that the Open Space Element of the General Plan, adopted by the City Council in Resolution No. 4585, be amended in part to read as indicated in the descriptive materials, true copies of which are attached hereto:

1. Descriptive matter being page 19 through page 23, marked Exhibit "A" (replacing page 19 and page 20 and relating to the Baylands and the Open Space Action Programs).

2. Descriptive matter being pages B-4, B-5, and B-7 (replacing pages B-4, B-5, and B-7 and relating to the Baylands) and a map entitled "BAYLANDS PLANT ZONES," dated February 10, 1973, numbered page B-19 (adding a map designating plant zones for the Baylands), marked Exhibit "B".
3. Descriptive matter being page E-1 through page E-7 (adding an appendix on detailed goals and policies for the Baylands) and page F-1 (adding an appendix on map definitions for the Open Space Plan), marked Exhibit "C".
4. A map entitled "THE OPEN SPACE PLAN," which will be dated April 23, 1973, which will be placed at the end of the Open Space Element of the General Plan, and which will be marked Exhibit "D" (replacing the two maps entitled "OPEN SPACE LANDS: URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS" and "OPEN SPACE LANDS: FOOTHILLS," following the present page 20), a presentation map of which was approved with revisions by the Planning Commission on March 14, 1973.

SECTION 2. The Planning Commission recommends that said Open Space Element of the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto be endorsed to show that the maps and descriptive materials contained therein have been so amended by the City Council of the City of Palo Alto.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 1973, by the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto by the following vote:

AYES: Brenner, Cody, Gordon, Powers, Steinberg.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Klein, Rack.

/s/ Mary Gordon
Chairman of the Planning Commission

RESOLUTION NO. 4727

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO
MAKING AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL PLAN AS CERTIFIED
TO THE CITY COUNCIL BY RESOLUTION NO. 163 OF THE
PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTED ON MARCH 14, 1973, BY
DELETING THE BAYLANDS DEVELOPMENT PLAN
(THREE-FINGER LAKE)

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has duly prepared and recommended for adoption certain amendments to the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, and the Planning Commission, after having held a public hearing on such proposed amendments on February 14, 1973, and March 14, 1973, pursuant to the provisions of Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080, has certified such amendments to the City Council recommending their incorporation into the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has also held a public hearing on the adoption of such amendments, pursuant to Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080 on April 23, 1973, notice of the time and place of which was published and given in the manner provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The General Plan of the City of Palo Alto adopted by the City Council by Resolution No. 3616 and amended by Resolution Nos. 3709, 3713, 3839, 3855, 4017, 4302, 4457, and 4585 is hereby further amended by rescinding said Resolution No. 4017 and making the following changes in the General Plan:

1. The deletion of the Three-Finger Lake Plan by removing pages 47, 47a, 47b, 47c, 47d, 47e, 47f, and 48 and by deleting the paragraph entitled "City-Wide Facilities" from page 63.

2. The removal of the map entitled "BAYLANDS PLAN-4A-" following page 47a.

SECTION 2. Said General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, including the General Plan Map, shall be endorsed to show that the maps and descriptive materials contained therein have been so amended by the City Council of the City of Palo Alto.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: April 23, 1973

AYES: Beahrs, Berwald, Clark, Comstock, Henderson, Norton, Pearson,
Rosenbaum, Seman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Ann J. Tanner

City Clerk

/s/ Kirke W. Comstock

Mayor

APPROVED:

/s/ G. A. Sipel

City Manager

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

/s/ Naphtali H. Knox

Director of Planning

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ M. D. Norek

Assistant City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. 163

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY
OF PALO ALTO RECOMMENDING AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL
PLAN BY DELETING THE BAYLANDS DEVELOPMENT PLAN
(THREE-FINGER LAKE)

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto, the Council of the City of Palo Alto on August 7, 1967, did amend the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto by Resolution No. 4017 to adopt the Three-Finger Lake Plan for the Baylands of the City of Palo Alto; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has further studied the Baylands area of the City of Palo Alto since 1967; and

WHEREAS, after reviewing the purpose, ecological impact, and probable cost of the Three-Finger Lake Plan, the Planning Commission finds that the Three-Finger Lake Plan is unnecessary to the primary flood protection purpose of the Palo Alto flood basin and that it is inconsistent with the goals of maintaining natural ecological processes in the Baylands and preserving the Baylands as a wildlife preserve; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission further finds that the Palo Alto flood basin still will be usable for a variety of recreational and educational purposes compatible with the purposes of flood control and wildlife preservation without the Three-Finger Lake Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed deletion of the Three-Finger Lake Plan from the General Plan on February 14, 1973, and March 14, 1973, pursuant to the provisions of Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 19.04.080, notice of the time and place of which was published and given in the manner provided by law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The Planning Commission recommends that the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, adopted by the City Council by Resolution No. 3616 and amended by Resolutions Nos. 3709, 3713, 3839, 3855, 4017, 4302, 4457, and 4585, be further amended by rescinding said Resolution No. 4017 and making the following changes in the General Plan:

1. The deletion of the Three-Finger Lake Plan by removing pages 47, 47a, 47b, 47c, 47d, 47e, 47f, and 48 and by deleting the paragraph entitled "City-Wide Facilities" from page 63.

2. The removal of the map entitled "BAYLANDS PLAN-4A-" following page 47a.

SECTION 2. The Planning Commission recommends that said General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, including the General Plan Map, be endorsed to show that the maps and descriptive materials contained therein have been so amended by the City Council of the City of Palo Alto.

ADOPTED this 14th day of March, 1973, by the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto by the following vote:

AYES: Brenner, Cody, Gordon, Powers, Steinberg.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Klein, Rack.

/s/ Mary Gordon

Chairman of the Planning Commission

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO
AMENDING THE GENERAL PLAN BY THE ADDITION OF AN OPEN
SPACE ELEMENT AS CERTIFIED TO THE CITY COUNCIL BY
RESOLUTION NO. 140 OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION ADOPTED
ON APRIL 5, 1972

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has duly prepared and recommended for adoption an addition to the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto, and the Planning Commission, after holding a public hearing on such proposed addition on April 5, 1972, pursuant to the provisions of the Palo Alto Municipal Code, Section 19.04.080, had certified such addition to the City Council recommending incorporation of an open space element into the General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has also held a public hearing on the adoption of such amendment, pursuant to Section 19.04.080 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code, on April 17, 1972, notice of time and place of which was published and given in the manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to adopt said addition, certified and reported on by the Planning Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

SECTION 1. The General Plan of the City of Palo Alto adopted by the City Council by Resolution No. 3616 and amended by Resolutions Nos. 3709, 3713, 3839, 3855, 4017, 4302, and 4457 is hereby further amended to read as indicated in the following descriptive material, true copies of which are attached hereto, entitled, "Open Space Element of the Palo Alto General Plan" dated March 28, 1972.

SECTION 2. Said General Plan of the City of Palo Alto shall be endorsed to show that the descriptive material has been so added by the City Council of the City of Palo Alto.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: April 17, 1972

AYES: UNANIMOUS

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/a/ Ann J. Tanner
City Clerk

/s/ Kirke W. Comstock
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Robert K. Booth
Senior Assistant City
Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

/s/ Louis J. Fourcroy
Director of Planning and
Community Development

City of Palo Alto

CALIFORNIA
94301

April 13, 1972

HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
Palo Alto, California

Members of the Council:

Transmitted herewith is the Open Space Element of the Palo Alto General Plan. I wish to forward it to you with a unanimous recommendation from the Planning Commission for adoption.

Several months ago, the Planning Commission began the process of a complete revision of the "General Plan." In recognition of the complex interaction between social, economic, environmental, and open space needs, it was deemed necessary that future planning and evaluation for the City be far more inclusive than our previous procedures had been. Several months ago the Planning Commission also initiated action mandated of us by the State Legislature adding an Open Space Element to the General Plan by June 30, 1972. Because of this time constraint, Open Space Element preparation could not be delayed until the conclusion of the two year Comprehensive Planning process.

The attached Open Space Element is a very important initial chapter of the Comprehensive Plan and we feel it to be consistent because of the strong commitment to the preservation of open space the citizens of Palo Alto have made through their Council. Indeed, the definition of open space contained in the element will form one cornerstone in our preparation of the Comprehensive Plan.

We have chosen to define open space broadly enough to include large ecological preserves as well as intimate urban park areas. The former may include wildlife habitat areas, areas hazardous due to seismic, erosion, flooding, or fire dangers, but which also have scenic qualities that we wish to retain. The latter may include the small and intimate urban parks and plazas which are important to the citizens of Palo Alto because they are readily accessible and intensively used.

Further, we have included in our concept of open space private as well as public lands where these are performing an open space function. We have recognized Palo Alto's interrelatedness with its neighbors and its sub-regional importance and feel it is our responsibility to be a conservator of open space as it effects the urban fabric of the Midpeninsula.

The Open Space Element has great importance also because many of the additional elements mandated by the State Legislature are related to open space in a vital way such that this work has provided extensive data toward ful-

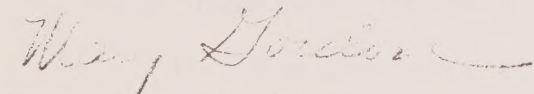
filling the requirements of several of these other elements. For example, work is now under way on the Conservation, the Scenic Highway and the Seismic Safety Elements based, in part, upon the philosophy contained within this Open Space Element and the data in Appendix A.

I trust that you will join me, as I know the Commission does, in thanking Mr. Bliss and the Planning staff for their efforts on this project. Their contribution goes well beyond "just doing a job", especially at this time when man hours have been in very short supply.

Therefore, on behalf of the Planning Commission, I wish to recommend and encourage adoption of the Open Space Element and shall be happy to assist the Council in any way possible.

Respectfully submitted,

PALO ALTO PLANNING COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Gordon", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Mary Gordon, Chairman

Attachments:

- (1) Resolution No. 140
- (2) Open Space Element

RESOLUTION NO. 140

RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
PALO ALTO RECOMMENDING ADDITION OF AN OPEN SPACE
ELEMENT TO THE PALO ALTO GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto has considered the need for an open space element as a part of the City's General Plan; and

WHEREAS, extensive public hearings have been held by the Planning Commission both as to the need for and the content of such an element.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Planning Commission of the City of Palo Alto does RESOLVE as follows:

1. The document entitled "Open Space Element of the Palo Alto General Plan" dated April 5, 1972, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby recommended to the Council of the City of Palo Alto as an addition to the General Plan of the City of Palo Alto.

INTRODUCED & PASSED: April 5, 1972

AYES: Gordon, Klein, Powers, Rack, Smith, Steinberg

NOES : None

ABSENT: Brenner

ATTEST:

APPROVED :

/s/Louis J. Fourcroy
Secretary of the
Planning Commission

/s/ Mary Gordon
Chairman of the
Planning Commission

THE OPEN SPACE ELEMENT
OF THE
GENERAL PLAN

Prepared For
Palo Alto Planning Commission

By
Department of
Planning and Community Development

Louis J. Fourcroy, Director

April 5, 1972

T H E O P E N S P A C E E L E M E N T

- I. THE NEED
- II. THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM, A FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING TYPES
 OF OPEN SPACE AND THEIR USES
- III. OPEN SPACE GOALS
- IV. OPEN SPACE POLICIES
- IV A. BAYLANDS GOALS AND POLICIES
- V. OPEN SPACE PROGRAMS

APPENDIX:

- A. CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM
- B. CURRENT INVENTORY OF OPEN SPACE LANDS AND USES,
 PROBLEMS AND FUTURE NEEDS
- C. BIBLIOGRAPHY
- D. MAP SOURCES
- E. BAYLANDS DETAILED GOALS AND POLICIES
- F. MAP DEFINITIONS FOR THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

L I S T O F M A P S

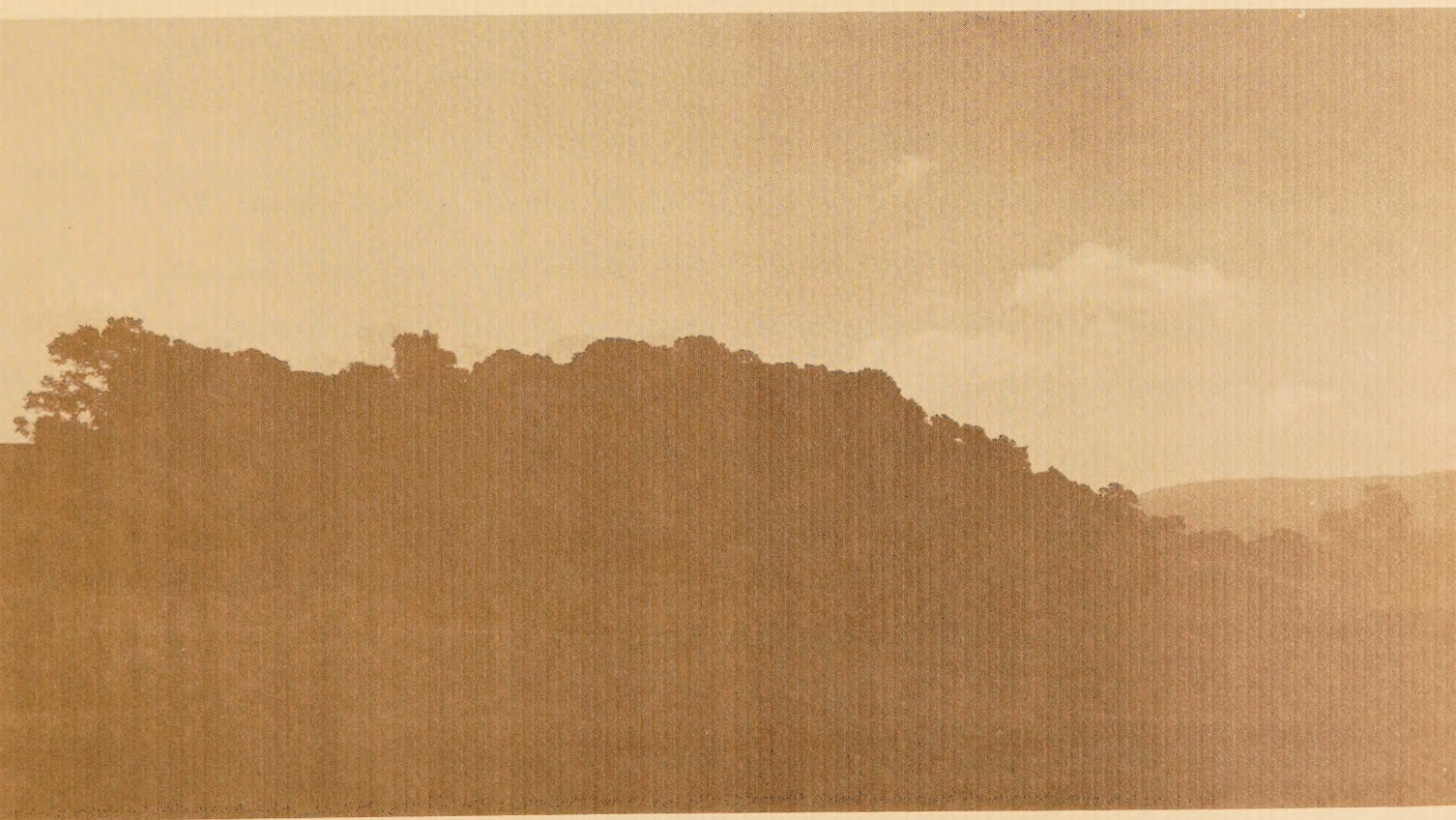
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THE OPEN SPACE PLAN	Map Pocket at End of Book

The Dakota was a true naturist -- a lover of nature. He loved the earth and all things of the earth, the attachment growing with age. The soil was soothing, strengthening, cleansing and healing. For him, to sit or lie upon the ground is to be able to think more deeply and to feel more keenly; he can see more clearly into the mysteries of life and come closer in kinship to other lives about him...

Kinship with all creatures of the earth, sky and water was a real and active principle. For the animal and bird world there existed a brotherly feeling that kept the Dakota safe among them.

The old Dakota was wise. He knew that man's heart away from nature becomes hard; he knew that lack of respect for growing, living things soon led to lack of respect for humans, too. So he kept his youth close to its softening influence.

Chief Luther Standing Bear,
Graduate of Carlisle





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

PALO ALTO AND THE
MID-PENINSULA SUB-REGION



THE OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

I. THE NEED:

In an urban setting, open space is of vital importance because it provides the contrast to the architectonic environment of houses, stores, offices, factories and schools. Psychologically, man needs to know there is a world of nature to which he can turn for natural beauty and recreation and to restore the innate primeval bonds with the natural environment. But there are other reasons for retaining open space lands in an essentially natural state. Among these are the need to prevent erosion, land slides, flooding, earthquake and fire hazards, and to protect man from those dangers; to preserve the ecological balance of the indigenous biotic communities and to maintain plant associations and wildlife habitat; and to protect common native species of plants and animals before they become rare and endangered, as well as those which have already been reduced to that state. Further, open space in an urban area can have utility for the production of food, in addition to providing visual relief and openness in the urban environment, and it can help shape and structure a more logical urban development pattern.

By nature of its extent, location and energy, Palo Alto is a strategic Midpeninsula regional sub-center. It is surrounded by smaller communities with fewer resources and thus less opportunity to contribute to the supply of accessible open space in the sub-region. Together with

the intimately related Stanford Lands, Palo Alto's open space lands provide the backbone of a much needed Midpeninsula open space system. A sub-regional structure of open spaces should include the baylands and foothills of the adjoining cities, the counties, and Palo Alto. Vital to this system are the stream courses, roads, pathways and City parks within the urban fabric.

Palo Alto has shown it has the capacity to maintain consistent long range policy and execute programs to effectuate that policy. Examples of this are the acquisition of the Baylands since 1921 and the annexation of the Foothills, the acquisition of Foothills Park, and the City's adopted policy to retain the Foothills as open space. In addition, it has provided neighborhood and district parks of adequate size and facilities immediately accessible to the resident population.

"Because these various functions of open space lands encompass so broad a range, it is impossible to cover each of these areas in detail within the scope of the Open Space Element, although this Element provides a broad base for the development of other Comprehensive Plan elements and has vital implications for them. Therefore, in addition to this Element, there will be the following related Elements: Land Use, Circulation, Housing, Conservation, Recreation, Seismic Safety, Noise, Scenic Highway, Public Facilities, Urban Design, and Redevelopment--each with its emphasis on different but related aspects of the City's lands and their functions and uses."

Recognizing the importance of open space lands and conservation practices, throughout the state the electorate voted to amend the California Constitution by adding Article XXVIII to provide for "Open Space and Areas for Public Use and Enjoyment." Section 1 of Article XXVII, Open Space Conservation, states:

"The people hereby declare that it is in the best interest of the state to maintain, preserve, conserve and otherwise continue in existence open space lands for the production of food and fiber and to assure the use and enjoyment of natural resources and scenic beauty for the economic and social well-being of the state and its citizens..."

(Adopted November 8, 1966)

In order to effectuate this declaration, the State Legislature in 1970 enacted AB 2180 which added Chapter 5, Article 10.5, Section 65560 thru 65568, Open Space Lands, to the Government Code of the State of California. It states in part:

"65561. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

- (b) That discouraging premature and unnecessary conversion of open space land to urban uses is a matter of public interest and will be of benefit to urban dwellers because it will discourage noncontiguous development patterns which unnecessarily increase the costs of community services to community residents.
- (c) That the anticipated increase in the population of the state demands that cities, counties, and the state at the earliest possible date make definite plans for the preservation of valuable open space land and take positive action to carry out such plans by the adoption and strict administration of laws, ordinances, rules and regulations as authorized by this chapter or by other appropriate methods.

- (d) That in order to assure that the interest of all its people are met in the orderly growth and development of the state and the preservation and conservation of its resources, it is necessary to provide for the development by the state, regional agencies, counties and cities, coordinated plans for the conservation and preservation of open space lands.
- (e) That for these reasons this article is necessary for the promotion of the general welfare and for the protection of the public interest in open space land." (emphasis added)

In AB 2180, the State Legislature required each city to prepare and adopt an Open Space Element for its general plan, including an action program to implement it by June 30, 1972, and each community to adopt an "Open Space Zoning Ordinance" consistent with its open space plan (by January 1, 1973). According to this legislation", 'open space land' is any parcel or area of land or water which is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use and which is designated on a local open space plan as any of the following:

- (1) Natural resource land
- (2) Agricultural land
- (3) Recreation land
- (4) Scenic land
- (5) Watershed or ground water recharge land
- (6) Wildlife habitat"

An "'Open space use' means the use of land for:

- (1) Public recreation
- (2) Enjoyment of scenic beauty
- (3) Conservation or use of natural resources
- (4) Production of food or fiber"
- (5) Protection of man and his artifacts
(buildings, property, etc.) (added by staff)
- (6) Containment and structuring of urban development (added by staff)

The intent of this legislation is:

- "(a) To assure that cities and counties recognize that open space land is a limited and valuable resource which must be conserved whenever possible.
- (b) To assure that every city and county will prepare and carry out open space plans which, along with state and regional open space plans, will accomplish the objectives of a comprehensive open space program."

The Federal Government's Department of Housing and Urban Development has developed a method for evaluating applications for federal assistance under its Legacy of Parks Urban Open Space Program. The following criteria have been established for evaluating a project's ability to meet the community's open space needs:

Part 541 - Open Space Program (Legacy of Parks) Project Selection System

541.10 Project's ability to meet open space needs.

(a) Environment

- (1) The project will prevent or remedy urban blight or deterioration.
- (2) The project will help curb urban sprawl or prevent incompatible development.

"Urban sprawl" refers to random and unguided development outward from urban centers. It is usually characterized by groups of large scale, low density residential development, interspersed and surrounded by commercial and industrial development. Projects that can help alleviate and curb urban sprawl are projects designed to guide large scale growth, or act as a buffer by separating existing land uses.

"Incompatible development" refers to undesirable and hazardous development of flood plains, steep slopes, faults, or any other similarly unsuited area.

- (3) The project will remedy deficiency of open space.

"Deficiency of open space" means that there is less than 2.5 acres of existing public open space per thousand population.

- (4) The project preserves ecologically significant areas or conserves scenic areas.

"Ecologically significant" refers to unusual, specific, resource-oriented open space areas such as wildlife sanctuaries, geysers, waterfalls, wetlands, and sand dunes.

- (5) The project involves more than one type of environmental improvement activity.

"Environmental improvements" are those development activities, excluding park development, designed to improve the overall appearance of a locality or neighborhood. These activities are designed to prevent community blight and decay, and can include street tree planting, redesigning street furniture, and improving pathways.

- (b) Population served. The project will readily serve a substantial number of low and moderate income residents.

- (c) Patterns of urban growth. The project involves undeveloped or predominately undeveloped land which, if withheld from commercial, industrial, and residential development, would have special significance in helping to shape desirable patterns of urban growth.

- (d) Danger of loss. The project is in imminent danger of loss.

"Imminent danger of loss" means that the project is threatened by action which will prevent the use of the area or property for open space or historic preservation purposes.

- (e) Historic preservation. Not applicable.

- (f) Program experience. If the applicant is without federally assisted program experience:

The applicant has well-maintained public open spaces, sponsors programs for their use, and operates those programs in a non-discriminatory manner.

These criteria indicate the nature and depth of Federal concern for establishing local open space lands.

More specifically, the purpose of an Open Space Element is to enunciate which lands in the community, both public and private, will be kept as open space, to identify appropriate open space needs and uses for open lands, and to provide a program which the local legislative body may pursue to preserve the desired open space lands.

Following is the general range of uses to which open space lands may be put:

(1) Public Recreation:

Many open spaces provide room for a variety of passive and active recreational pursuits. Many passive low intensity recreational pursuits, such as hiking and riding, require large open spaces. On the other hand, many active pursuits, such as tennis and swimming, require smaller areas, but more elaborate facilities. All of these recreational activities offer important opportunities for the fulfillment of human physical and psychological needs.

(2) Enjoyment of Scenic Beauty:

Many open spaces have inherent qualities that humans find visually pleasing, even beautiful, or relaxing, or stimulating, or enjoyable. All these qualities help fulfill human psychological needs.

(3) Conservation or Use of Natural Resources:

Open space which performs a conservation function is a major element of the Open Space Plan. Large areas of non-urban development adjoining the developed urban lands serve a variety of purposes, such as generating oxygen while not producing air pollutants, providing a habitat for wildlife and conserving water and soil. Many open spaces, such as the foothills and baylands, are vital to maintaining the ecological balance of the area.

The baylands offer an instructive example of this. The marsh plants, through the process of photosynthesis, extract carbon dioxide from the air and contribute large amounts of oxygen to the air and water, purifying both. This free oxygen is needed to support a teeming animal life which in turn is a basis of the Pacific food chain.

The marshes themselves are a vital part of the Pacific food chain. They provide a major spawning ground for many fish,

while the mudflats are an important source of food to many shore birds and waterfowl. Without cordgrass, the most important of the marsh grasses, there would be no Bay shrimp, mussels, striped bass or canvasback ducks, to name those edible species vitally dependent upon it. Decomposed cordgrass also provides food for tiny fish and invertebrates such as the brine shrimp and the beach hopper. These minute animals in turn provide food for small animals such as the Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, which is eaten by larger predatory birds.

The marshes and adjacent uplands provide a year-round home for several species of mammals, reptiles, shore birds, and waterfowl and a resting and wintering area for the migrating waterfowl of the Pacific Flyway.

Evaporation of the Bay waters is essentially a cooling process which lowers the air temperature and adds humidity to the air mass. Thus, the Bay acts as a modifier of the local climate keeping the City significantly cooler in the summer than the cities further from the Bay.

(4) Production of Food and Fiber:

Some open spaces provide for the production of food and fiber, and where appropriate, mineral or building products extraction. Agricultural lands may be grazing lands, cultivated lands or orchards, vineyards or tree farms.

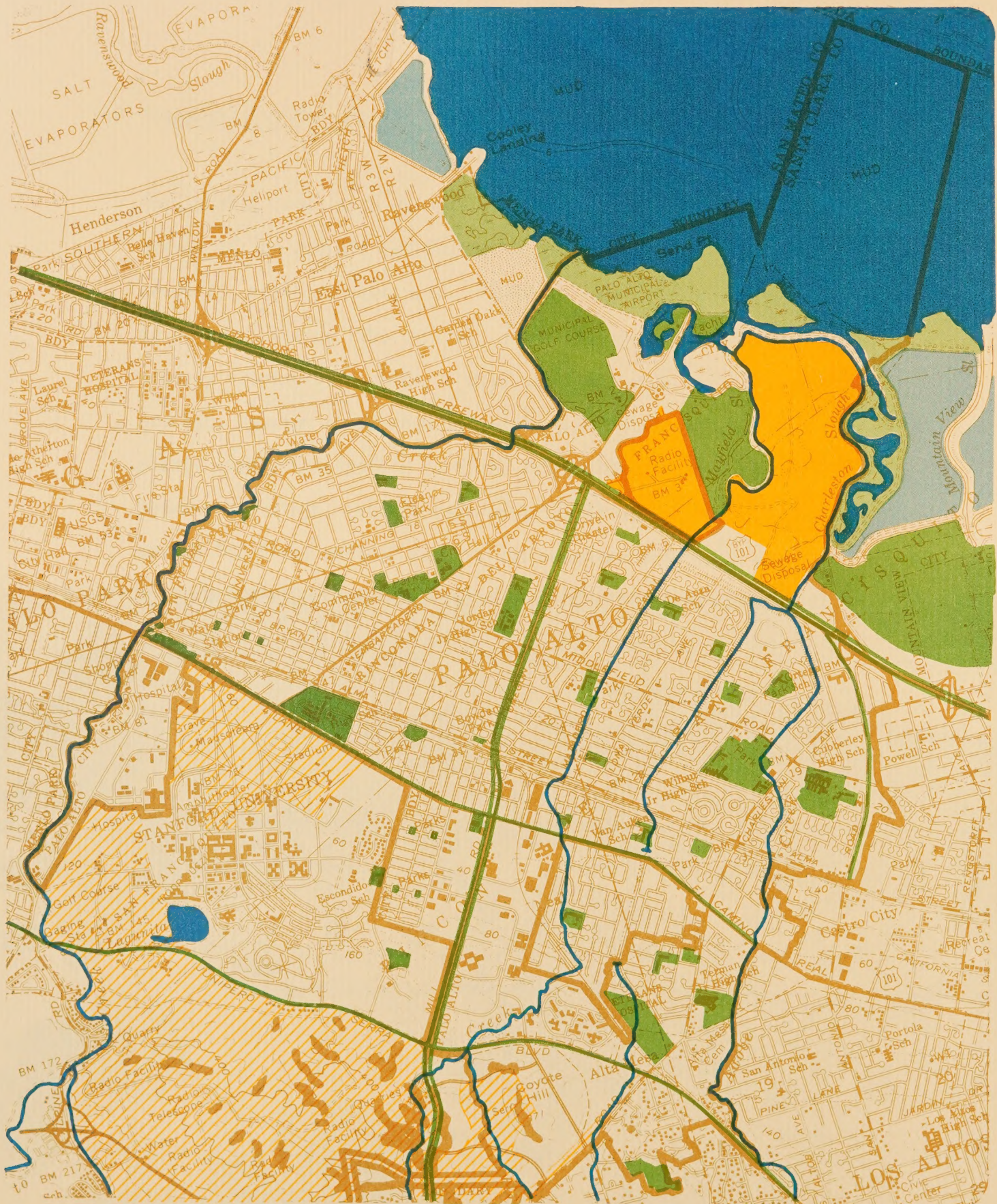
(5) Protection of Man and his Artifacts:

Maintaining some lands as open space is required to prevent damage to man and his artifacts; his buildings, landscaped property, streets, cars, etc. These include lands susceptible to seismic hazards like shaking, slope collapse and liquefaction; steeply sloping land which is also susceptible to earthslides and erosion, causing downstream siltation and flooding; lands with plants highly susceptible to fire; lands which provide spaces between buildings, thereby retarding the spread of fire; lands needed for flood control such as the woodland and grassland in upstream areas, which are important to watershed protection because they retard the rate of run off and enhance percolation for ground water recharge; flood plains of creeks, and the flood basin; lands susceptible to compression and sinking; and lands susceptible to subsidence.

(6) Containment and Structuring of Urban Development:

Some open space, generally large in scale, can be used to contain urban sprawl, which tends to be relatively costly for both existing residents and the future resident population. Other open spaces might provide a structure for urban development, such as freeway rights-of-way, linear parkways, plazas and urban parks. Some of these might become magnets or focal points for more intensive urban developments, particularly when integrated into community improvement, rehabilitation and renewal projects.





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

NATURAL CHARACTER:
URBAN LANDS AND
BAYLANDS

cultural (urban)
marshes
wetlands
grasslands and oak parklands
salt ponds



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COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

NATURAL CHARACTER:
FOOTHILLS

- forests
- chaparral
- grasslands, oak parklands and cultural (rural)





II. THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM,

A FRAMEWORK FOR IDENTIFYING TYPES OF OPEN SPACE AND THEIR USES:

Palo Alto is the only community in the South Bay Region whose lands extend from the middle of the Bay to the crest of Skyline Ridge in the Santa Cruz Mountains. This presents a variety of topography and concomitant biotic diversity which offers both a unique opportunity and a regional responsibility to preserve and study as well as to enjoy a greater cross section of the region's ecologically significant areas than any other city in the South Bay area.

Historically, the area was first occupied by Indians who made few changes in, and relatively few demands on, the natural state of the lands and waters of the region. Spaniards colonized the area and established ranchos. They introduced large scale grazing, exotic grasses and minor logging. Later, American settlers introduced more exotic grasses, undertook major logging, cleared and cultivated some lands and planted orchards on other lands. Then Stanford University was established, which preserved some lands, but brought small scale, urban growth to the area. Gradually, small scale urban growth was superseded by major intensive urban development of nearly all easily developable lands on the Midpeninsula. Now, in the main, only the more difficult to develop and less accessible lands, and Stanford reserved lands, remain undeveloped in the area. These undeveloped lands include the Baylands and the Foothills in Palo Alto. Any discussion of open space lands and uses for the City must deal with the Baylands and Foothills and integrate them into an urban open space system. This system

must include the macro-, intermediate-, and micro-scale open spaces and recognize the utility and importance of each.

To help visualize just what open space is, if it is thought of in the broadest possible terms, it must be recalled that it was all open space before man came. As soon as permanent structures were created, some lands were henceforth covered by "enclosed" space--that area of a building which is upon the land. As urban development progressed, a substantial portion of land in the urban area came to be covered by buildings. And now, to urban dwellers who spend 90% of their lives indoors, contact with the outdoors is very limited.

The City's open space system emphasizes those specific lands, and the conservation programs which improve and optimize the utility and beauty of these lands, whose primary function is that of being utilized for one or more of these specific open space uses, protection of man, conservation of natural resources, scenic beauty, public recreation, containment and structuring of urban development, and production of food and fiber.

Open space includes both large and small, public and private lands. Both the State and Federal definitions on pages 4, 5 and 6 make it clear that size is not a limiting factor for inclusion as open space, and neither do they intend that ownership must be public. They explicitly state there are different purposes for open space lands and imply ("...any parcel or area of land or water...", State definition) that open space can be any size, so long as it fulfills an open space function.

On one end of the spectrum, the City is concerned with the preservation of the entire foothills, both publicly and privately owned lands, and the baylands as essentially open space, while on the other, the green areas in the urban sections of the City, which are predominantly on private property, should be considered as open space because they do, in fact, fulfill many open space functions.

Open space around a building may prevent the spread of fire, provide light and air to the building, and allow views to and from the building. It may have grass, flowers, shrubs, and trees which provide wildlife habitat and a high oxygen exchange. It may retain soil and moisture, thereby conserving them and preventing erosion and downstream flooding. In addition to privacy for its residents, it may provide qualities of scenic beauty to its inhabitants as well as to the community.

The City's concept of open space then, should clearly recognize that the protection of man, conservation of natural resources, and enjoyment of scenic beauty cannot be accomplished on public lands alone; and that many programs can be implemented on private as well as public lands which will protect the public interest for a public purpose.

"Public interest for a public purpose" does not necessarily mean public access to open space lands. Public access might be incompatible with other open space uses, such as wildlife breeding, flood control, establishing or maintaining fragile plant growth, and airport approach zones.

It might also be incompatible with individual property owners' rights to privacy.

Many open space uses are best administered, however, if the City and/or another public agency has full or primary authority through title or restrictive zoning over certain lands. This is true of intensively used public parks, of the flood basin, the marshlands and tidelands, plazas, the landscaped areas adjacent to streets, creeks and riparian lands, and wilderness areas or other wildlife habitat of shy or endangered species. These areas comprise the major elements of a comprehensive open space and conservation program because of the vital, functional nature of their open space uses.

Some conservation programs can be effectuated by appealing to the community spirit of the owners of private property in the City. For example, if a certain species of bird, originally native to the area, were endangered because people simply didn't know they had inadvertently minimized its food supply or habitat through urbanization, an appeal might be made to plant certain bushes or trees which provide that species of bird with nesting and food supplies. Programs such as these will be included in the Conservation Element.

In order to further delineate the Palo Alto Open Space System, several classifications have been formulated which organize the properties of the various lands in Palo Alto and its immediate proximity. These classifications are listed below and are found in Appendix A. Appendix B contains a brief discussion of these lands, their uses and

associated needs and problems.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM:

CLASSIFICATION A: A Classification of Relative Scales of Open Space Lands

CLASSIFICATION B: Recommended Appropriate Uses of the Various Open Space Lands within Palo Alto

CLASSIFICATION C: Lands Needed for Protection of Man for Reasons of Health and Safety

CLASSIFICATION D: The Extent of Control Palo Alto Has Over the Various Lands Within Its Open Space System

CLASSIFICATION E: Scenic Qualities of Lands Within the Open Space System

CLASSIFICATION F: Ecological Character and Functions of the Various Open Spaces and Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain Them





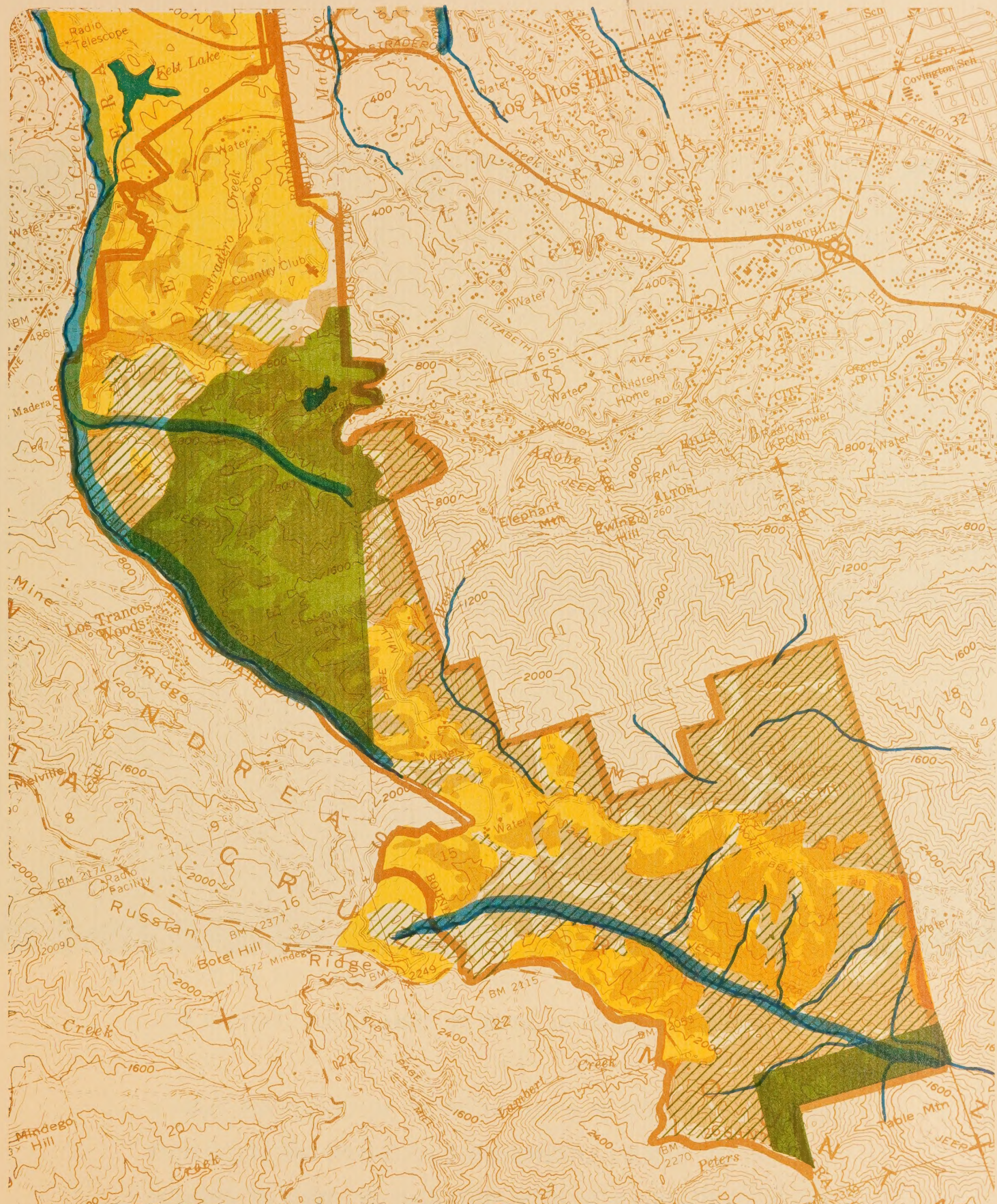
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

OPEN SPACE USE:
URBAN LANDS AND
BAYLANDS

- recreation
- wildlife habitat
- boulevard
- watershed
- natural resource and wildlife habitat
- agriculture, scenic, ground water
- recharge and watershed
- watershed, wildlife habitat and recreation





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Palo Alto

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OPEN SPACE USE:
FOOTHILLS

- recreation, scenic, wildlife habitat, ground water recharge and watershed
- scenic, wildlife habitat, ground water recharge and watershed
- watershed
- agriculture, scenic, ground water recharge and watershed





III. OPEN SPACE GOALS:

1. AN OPEN SPACE SYSTEM OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE WITH PUBLIC ACCESS, WHEREVER SUITABLE, EXTENDING FROM SKYLINE RIDGE TO THE WATERS OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY.
2. PRESERVATION OF OPEN SPACES WHICH ARE REQUIRED FOR THE PROTECTION OF MAN FROM NATURAL HAZARDS INHERENT IN CERTAIN AREAS.
3. PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE INHERENT NATURAL BEAUTY OF THE VARIOUS GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF PALO ALTO.
4. ACHIEVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND MAN'S USES OF THE LAND.
5. PREVENTION OF THE UNNECESSARY OR PREMATURE CONVERSION OF OPEN SPACE LANDS TO URBAN USES AND DISCOURAGEMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS, WHICH ARE COSTLY TO THE COMMUNITY.
6. PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF OPEN SPACES WHICH ARE VITAL AS WILD-LIFE HABITAT, AND OF AREAS OF MAJOR OR UNIQUE ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE.
7. A PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM IN PALO ALTO WHICH PROVIDES AREAS, FACILITIES, AND IMPROVEMENTS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AND PROPERLY DESIGNED TO SERVE THE RECREATION NEEDS OF ALL RESIDENTS OF THE COMMUNITY.

8. ENHANCEMENT OF URBAN AREAS OF PALO ALTO THROUGH INTEGRATION OF RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND INDUSTRIAL NEIGHBORHOODS INTO THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM.

IV. OPEN SPACE POLICIES:

1. Recognize that different kinds of open space have different functions, but include in the Palo Alto Open Space System wherever possible lands that can be used for at least two of the six major open space functions: recreation, scenic beauty, conservation, production, protection, and containment and structuring.
2. Determine priorities among various open space uses to insure that major alteration is not undertaken without full discussion and understanding of the probable end result and alternative consequences.
3. Preserve lands as open space to minimize hazards to man due to seismic activity such as quaking, slope collapse and liquefaction, or due to fire, earth-sliding, flooding, erosion and siltation, soil compression, lateral spreading, and subsidence.
4. Protect conservation and scenic areas from deterioration or destruction by either private or public actions.
5. Provide open space lands for a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, and make improvements, construct facilities and maintain programs which will encourage, where appropriate, a maximum of resident participation.
6. Include landscaping and plazas on public and private lands and well-designed pedestrian facilities in areas of intensive pedestrian activity, particularly in the City's business districts and neighborhood centers.
7. Support regional and sub-regional efforts to acquire, develop, maintain and/or operate open space lands and facilities (including an effort toward the development of a Skyline Scenic Parkway along Skyline Drive).
8. Make use of Federal and State programs wherever possible in all matters concerned with open space. (These may include Environmental Impact Studies, National Flood Insurance Programs, Land and Water Conservation Funds, Urban Open Space (Legacy of Parks) Funds, Urban Renewal and/or Urban Beautification Programs, etc.)
9. Develop hiking, biking and riding trails and paths consistent with the recommendations of the Trails and Paths Plan.
10. Utilize natural riparian lands along streams, ponds, creeks and lakes wherever possible for paths and trails, and as links in the City-wide and subregional open space systems.
11. Provide maximum open space in residential developments consistent with residents' needs and economic feasibility.

12. Adopt plant zones shown on the map entitled BAYLANDS PLANT ZONES. Adopt and maintain a master plant list of suitable plants for each zone based upon adaptability, wildlife utility, and aesthetic compatibility to the natural baylands landscape.
13. Adopt a wildlife habitat - ecological preserve concept for the remaining natural areas in the Palo Alto Baylands, to allow only compatible recreation uses.

BAYLANDS GOALS AND POLICIES

Palo Alto recognizes through the following primary goals that the South Bay and its adjacent lands are unique and irreplaceable resources important to the total environment of the Bay region:

1. Preservation and enhancement of water areas: Palo Alto acknowledges the necessity of the responsibility for the preservation and enhancement of all water areas -- Bay, marshlands, wetlands, salt ponds, sloughs, and creeks -- in order that they may:
 - a. Preserve an irreplaceable resource (primarily natural) which forms a large scale open space.
 - b. Preserve and enhance environmental air, water, visual and sound quality.
 - c. Function as a moderator of the climate.
 - d. Provide a living scientific and educational resource for all age groups.
 - e. Enhance the fulfillment of open space, conservation and recreational needs.
 - f. Allow for only those uses (public or private) which are found to be compatible with the foregoing objectives.
2. Wise use of dry land areas: Palo Alto recognizes the importance of careful planning of the use of dry land areas in a manner:
 - a. Compatible with and supportive to the above water area policy.
 - b. Assured of a reasonable level of safety from flood and/or geological risk for life and property.
 - c. Related visually and physically to the Bay by giving greater priority to dominant open space uses near the water areas (for example, conservation, recreation and agriculture) over urban uses (for example, housing, industry, transportation, etc.)

Detailed goals and policies are listed in Appendix E.

V. OPEN SPACE ACTION PROGRAMS

Foothills:

It is the adopted policy of the City of Palo Alto to preserve the Foothills as open space.

1. The City has created an "O-S" (Open Space) District as one means of preserving open space, and has applied the new zone to the Foothills. The zone does allow some development, for instance, residential development at one dwelling unit per 10 acres, but requires any development of 4 or more units to be clustered in order to minimize road construction and slope and landscape disturbance and to retain as much open area as possible. Any existing lot smaller than 10 acres is considered a legal building site if it was a legal building site under its previous zone. Foundation and soil conditions must be reviewed by one or more geologists or structural engineers, and the design and siting of the structures must be approved by the Planning Commission and City Council.
2. The City has entered into Williamson Act contracts with owners to establish Agricultural Preserves on several Foothill properties which total 177 acres as of March 1, 1973. Under the terms of these contracts, the lands preserved will remain in open space use, and their scenic, natural resource, wildlife habitat, and agricultural values will be retained.
3. The City has received a gift of 79 acres of land in the Foothills at the intersection of Page Mill Road and Monte Bello Road. In addition, the City has purchased a 49-acre parcel just west of the Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. Possibilities for recreation and conservation uses of these lands will be determined in 1973 and 1974.
4. The almost 500-acre Black Mountain Ranch has been donated by George Morell, publisher of the Palo Alto Times, to Stanford University. The ranch transverses the City's Foothills from north to south, about 1-1/2 miles southeast of the intersection of Page Mill Road and Monte Bello Road, and adjoins a 200-acre parcel previously donated to Stanford for educational and research purposes. The use of the land has not been encumbered, although it is Mr. Morell's stated wish to the University that these lands remain essentially open and in their natural wilderness state.

5. It is the intent of the City to preserve as open space:
 - A. Coyote Hill
 - B. Deer Gulch
 - C. The hilly area between Deer Creek Road, Arastradero Road, Page Mill Road, and the Junipero Serra Freeway.
 - D. The hilly area between Page Mill Road, the proposed Foot-hill Expressway, Alpine Road, and Junipero Serra Freeway.

Baylands:

The City owns most of the lands with open space potential within its jurisdiction in the Baylands and has dedicated it for park, conservation, and other open space purposes:

1. The City also owns the Faber Tract, a property in San Mateo County, some of which was once marsh and which is being returned to salt marsh in conformance with BCDC directives. The Faber Tract and the Laumeister Tract, also in San Mateo County, which together comprise about 220 acres, have been designated as Marshland Preserve, marshland being defined as those lands above mean sea level which are currently subject to tidal action, and the levees adjoining these lands.
2. All of the marshlands in Palo Alto have been designated as Marshland Preserve. These include the marshes at the mouth of Charleston Slough, and the Sand Point, Hook Island, Yacht Harbor, and Castle Island marshes as well as all the tidelands in Palo Alto since they are an integral part of the marshland ecology.
3. Several plans and studies have been executed for the South Bay which affect Palo Alto. Among these are the San Francisco Bay Plan by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission; the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge proposal; Santa Clara County Shoreline Park Plan; and the Santa Clara County Planning Policy Committee Baylands Subcommittee Study. The City has re-evaluated the conflict between recreation and conservation uses in the Flood Basin, and has determined that flood control will be the primary purpose of the Flood Basin, and that preservation of wetland and wildlife habitat will be the secondary purpose. The Planning Commission, therefore, has designated the Flood Basin as Wetland Preserve, wetlands being defined as those lands which previously received tidal action and are still in a natural and undeveloped state, and adjoining levees. Educational programs, nature study, and recreation oriented to the Baylands will be encouraged in the Flood Basin, as will the controlled and experi-

mental introduction of compatible salt-tolerant plants to provide food supply and shelter for wildlife and thus increase wildlife density and diversity.

4. The IT&T property, a 154-acre parcel within the jurisdiction of Santa Clara County, has been rezoned to "A-C-D", Agricultural-Conservation, Site and Design Control, as an indication of the City's desire that the land remain undeveloped and in its present state insofar as practicable.
5. The City has the full cooperation of the Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water District in utilizing the Flood Basin as a wildlife habitat. If it is found necessary to excavate material from the floor of the basin to increase the runoff holding capacity, the District has said that it will coordinate these excavations with the City to facilitate the development of isolated island wildlife sanctuaries within the basin. The District will modify gates to allow hiking and cycling along the Flood Basin levee through the Charleston Slough area. The District has also consented to work with the City in improvement of the levee system, to allow salt-, drought-, and moisture-tolerant plants to be planted on the levees to improve their appearance and to retard levee erosion.
6. The City is expanding its Baylands Trail System to extend from one end of its Baylands to the other. Eventually, the trail system can continue on into Menlo Park and East Palo Alto on the northwest and Mountain View on the southeast, and will tie in to urban Palo Alto. The existing levees and P. G. and E.'s boardwalk under their transmission tower will be utilized in the trail system.
7. The City will use the Baylands Plant Zone concept (see Appendix B, THE BAYLANDS) to landscape several of its own facilities, review the landscaping plans of the areas leased to the County (the Airport and the Yacht Harbor), and review the landscaping plans of private developers in the Baylands. The County plans to upgrade the road between the Duck Pond - Lagoon and the Yacht Harbor, after which the City will finish landscaping the Duck Pond and Lagoon area with natives and other salt-marsh-related plants. The City will develop parking, observation, and picnic areas in conjunction with this work.
8. The City has designated a small unincorporated area in the Baylands lying between Palo Alto and Mountain View as Open Space Land. That portion which actually lies within the Flood Basin and on the adjoining levee is designated Wetland Preserve and that portion which lies across the course of Charleston Slough is designated Marshland Preserve.

9. An area of approximately 150 acres east of the IT&T property has been utilized or designated as a sanitary land fill area. Its future use has been designated for park, recreation, and conservation purposes. The current program of filling is expected to be completed by 1983. If and when alternative sites or methods of refuse disposal are found, the site will be put to recreational uses.

Bicycle System:

1. The City had implemented the Basic Bicycle Network (the first phase) of its Bicycle Master Plan. After an evaluation of the network's utility and comprehensiveness as a commuting and recreational system, further expansion of the network will be dependent upon available funds and community desires.

Trails and Paths:

1. The City has designated Streamside Trails along Stevens, Arastradero, Los Trancos, and San Francisquito Creeks and will explore requirements for recreation hiking and riding facilities.
2. The City, acting in cooperation with adjoining cities and counties, has designated the area along Skyline Boulevard as part of a Skyline Scenic Recreation Route, and will develop recreational hiking, biking, and riding facilities through its jurisdiction.
3. See Open Space Action Programs, Baylands Program No. 6 on page 22, for an explanation of the Baylands Trail System.

Neighborhood Parks:

1. The City will develop small parks in the Downtown Neighborhood as soon as is reasonable in consideration of the current housing situation. A site north of University Avenue has been purchased on the block bounded by Everett, Waverley, Hawthorne and Kipling. The site has not yet been fully developed since it would remove eleven low/moderate income dwelling units; however, several vacant parcels on the block have been temporarily developed as mini-parks.
2. It is the intent of the City to create a neighborhood park south of University Avenue in the downtown neighborhood, but the purchase of a site for it has been held in abeyance due to other higher priority needs such as the purchase of the Foothills and the maintenance of all low/moderate income housing units; and the completion of the University Avenue Neighborhood Study which will analyze alternative sites and recommend one of them.
3. It is the intent of the City to consider purchase of land for small public parks, wherever possible and appropriate, in conjunction with subsidized housing.

APPENDIX





**COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN – Palo Alto**

Department of Planning and
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- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| LANDS WITH HIGH SEISMIC |  | due to fracturing (fault zone) |
| RISK: FOOTHILLS |  | due to landsliding (over 30% slope) |
| |  | due to soil instability |



APPENDIX A: CLASSIFICATIONS OF THE OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

CLASSIFICATION A: A Classification of Relative Scales of Open Space Lands

For the following reasons, lands outside of Palo Alto are listed in its open space system:

The subregional interconnectedness of open space lands tends to ignore community boundaries, so that even though lands are outside the City, they are a vital part of the physical environment of Palo Alto. The City's open space system is primarily concerned with lands within its jurisdiction. But because of this physical continuity the City must be at least cognizant of the uses on, conditions of, and plans for the lands on its periphery.

Particularly important are the lands within each specific watershed of the several creeks which pass through Palo Alto. (A creek's watershed consists of the entire land area from which water drains into that creek or its tributaries.) Responsibility for programs to minimize flooding damage in a watershed lies mainly with the San Mateo and the Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control Districts. However, improper urban development, foresting, or farming practices could exacerbate rapid runoff, erosion, siltation and flooding, having serious consequences far from the source of the problem.

Some of the lands having one of the six open space uses are in proximity to Palo Alto in adjacent communities, and in the two Counties; and Palo Alto residents have direct access to some and derive indirect benefits from most in the form of protection, conservation and scenic beauty.

I. MACRO-SCALE OPEN SPACE:

This term refers to the lands where the sense of openness is extensive; views of it encompass large expanses of water, undeveloped or primarily undeveloped lands, or rural lands with minor development. Of course micro-environments might exist within it, such as a clearing in the woods, a slough in the marsh, or a small wooded valley or cluster of trees in the otherwise grass covered rolling hills; but continuity and large size give these areas their dominant character.

Macro-Scale Open Spaces:

Foothills:

Upper Foothills

Upper Stevens Creek County Park (Not all in Palo Alto)

Lower Foothills
Golf Course (Palo Alto Hills)
Duveneck Property (Not in Palo Alto)
Lands Adjacent in San Mateo County south of Willow Road

Stanford Lands:

Lower Foothills Area (Not all in Palo Alto)
Academic Lands and the Aboretum adjacent to El Camino Real (not in Palo Alto)
Coyote Hill, Deer Gulch Area

Baylands:

Bay Waters
Tidal Mud Flats
Salt Marsh
 Faber Tract (Not in Palo Alto)
 Sand Point Marsh
 Hook's Island
Flood Basin
Charleston Slough (Not in Palo Alto)
Salt Ponds in Mountain View and Menlo Park
Golf Course
Refuse Disposal Area
IT&T Property (Not in Palo Alto)
Airport
Yacht Harbor
Duck Pond and Lagoon
Baylands Athletic Center

Freeway Rights-of-Way (Green Areas):

Junipero Serra Freeway

II. INTERMEDIATE SCALE OPEN SPACE:

Open space lands of intermediate scale in Palo Alto includes areas ranging in size from 3 to 50 acres, and ranging in description from a small totally open area to a large development of structures with extensive landscaping, the unifying element being the sense of openness in the middle ground with a definite background limit to one's view.

Intermediate Scale Open Spaces:

District Parks:

Rinconada
Mitchell

Neighborhood Parks:

16 Parks

Special Facilities:

El Camino Park
Timothy Hopkins Creekside Park
Esther Clark Park

School District Sites (Green Areas):

3 High Schools
3 Junior High Schools
20 Elementary Schools
3 sites in Los Altos Hills, two of these adjacent to
Palo Alto on Page Mill Road

Other Public Uses (Green Areas):

Lucie Stern Community Center
Cultural Center
Main Library
Mitchell Park Library and Community Center

Institutions (Green Areas):

Stanford Hospital, Children's Convalescent Hospital,
Hoover Pavilion

Veteran's Administration Hospital
Medical Clinic
Various Churches
Private Schools

Large Private Development Lands (Green Areas):

Shopping Centers
Industrial Lands
Office Complexes

Streams and Channels:

San Francisquito Creek Riparian Lands (Including Los Trancos
Creek)
Matadero Creek Riparian Lands and Channel Easements (Including
Deer Creek)
Adobe-Barron Creeks Riparian Lands and Channel Easements
Stevens Creek Riparian Lands

Major Thoroughfare Rights-Of-Way (Green Areas):

El Camino Real
Foothill Expressway
Oregon Expressway - Page Mill Road
San Antonio Road
Freeway Interchanges

III. MICRO-SCALE OPEN SPACE:

Open spaces that are of a small or intimate nature are called micro-scale open spaces. Generally, the observer is intimately confronting the objects in this size open space and he is relatively unaware of, or prevented from, viewing beyond two or three hundred feet. His attention is usually focused on the detail of forms, textures and color of foreground objects.

Micro-Scale Open Spaces:

University Avenue Business District (Green Areas):

University Avenue District Beautification Treatment Proposal
(to include new mini-plazas)

Cogswell Plaza

Lytton Plaza

Mini-plazas related to various commercial and office buildings

California Avenue Business District (Green Areas):

Mini-plazas related to Various Commercial and Office Buildings
California Avenue Beautification Treatment

Small Scale Private Lands (Green Areas):

Residences

Small Businesses

Lawn Bowling Green

CLASSIFICATION B: Recommended Appropriate Uses of the Various Open Space
Lands Within Palo Alto

NOTE: No ranking is implied. Listed alphabetically.

I. Foothills (Generalized)

A. Upper Foothills

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Production
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

B. Foothills Park

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

C. Lower Foothills

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Production
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

II. Baylands

A. Flood Basin

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

B. Salt Marsh

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

C. Yacht Harbor

Recreation
Scenic Beauty

D. Duck Pond and Lagoon

Conservation
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

E. Faber Tract

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

F. Golf Course

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

G. Refuse Disposal Area (for as long as is needed for
refuse disposal and has capacity to accept refuse)

Protection

H. Refuse Disposal Area (when topped off)

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

III. District and Neighborhood Parks and School Facilities

Conservation
Recreation
Scenic Beauty
Structuring

IV. Flood plains and Stream Courses of Creeks

Conservation
Containment and Structuring
Protection
Recreation
Scenic Beauty

V. Community Centers such as Downtown, California Avenue, Midtown

- Conservation
- Recreation
- Scenic Beauty
- Structuring

VI. Open Space Lands on Private Property

- Conservation
- Containment and Structuring
- Production
- Protection
- Recreation (private)
- Scenic Beauty

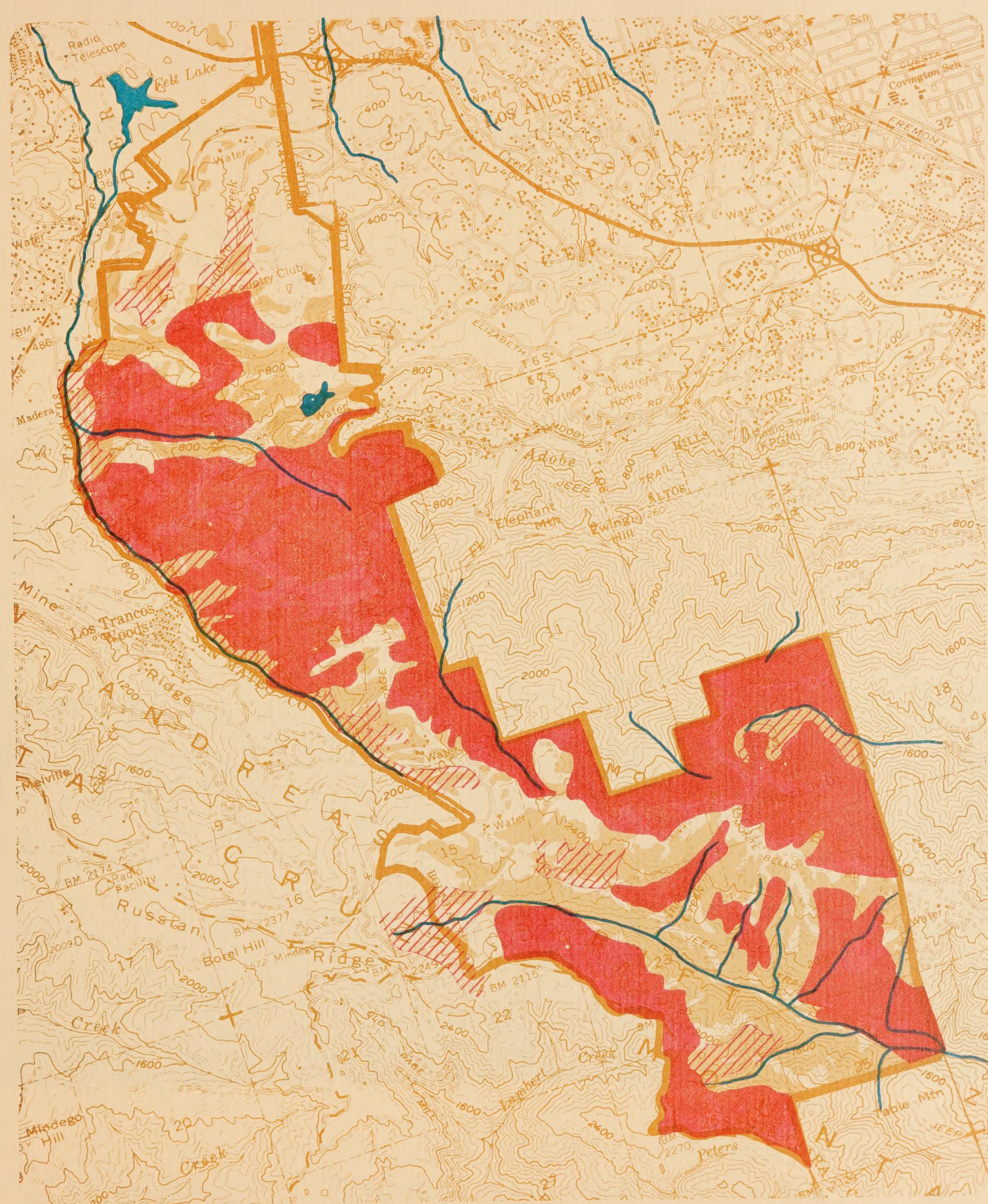
VII. Public Rights-of-Way (Green Areas):

- Conservation
- Protection
- Recreation
- Scenic Beauty
- Structuring

CLASSIFICATION C: Lands Needed for Protection of Man for Reasons of Health and Safety

<u>Specific Risk, Hazard or Need</u>	<u>Lands Affected</u>
Lands with High Seismic Risk	
Due to Fracturing	San Andreas Fracture Zone Minor Fracture Zones in Foothills
Due to Landsliding	Steep to moderately sloped lands in Foothills (over 30% slope)
Due to Soil Instability	Certain soils, particularly soils on steep slopes and sandy soils
Due to Liquefaction	Bayland areas composed of bay mud with sand lenses
Lands with Substantial Fire Hazard Risk	Areas of grasslands and chaparral in Foothills
Lands Subject to Mudsliding	Moderate to steep sloped lands in Foothills, particularly clayey soils
Lands Subject to Erosion	Gentle to steep sloped lands, particularly denuded lands and riparian lands in Foothills and along creek courses
Lands Subject to Flooding or Siltation	Downstream lands, specifically flood plains by the Bayshore Freeway and riparian lands along creek courses and the Flood Basin
Lands Contributory to Flooding	Steep sloped lands and lands with impermeable soils, or rock layers or bedrock close to the surface, particularly in Foothills
Lands Needed to Maintain Flood Control	Riparian lands and channels and the Flood Basin
Lands Subject to Compression	Lands in Baylands with organic soils like peat and bay mud, and sanitary landfill
Lands Subject to Subsidence	Lands over ground water aquifer, specifically the Baylands and adjacent flatlands

Specific Risk, Hazard or Need	Lands Affected
Lands Subject to Ground Failure and Lateral Spreading	Lands with organic or sandy soils, particularly the bay mud and peat soils in Baylands
Lands Subject to Submersion	Tidal flats and marshlands to limits of highest tide
Lands Needed for Airport Approach Zones	Lands at the ends of runways in the Baylands
Lands Needed for Public Rights-of-way	Includes all public roads and ancillary sidewalks, landscaped median or boulevard strips, utility easements, etc.
Lands Needed as Spatial Separation of Structure from Noise and Hazards of Public Rights-Of-Way	Front and rear yard setbacks based upon zone and use of parcel
Lands Needed as Fire Breaks Around Structure	Side and rear yard setbacks, and separations between structures on a single parcel based upon zoning and use of parcel, and construction and height of structure
Lands Needed for Light and Air Around Structure	Front, side and rear yard setbacks and separations between structures on a single parcel based upon zoning and use of parcel and height of structures
Lands Needed for Solid Waste Disposal	Sanitary landfill site in the Baylands
Lands and Waters Needed for Sewage Disposal System	Sewage treatment facility site in Baylands and utility easements in City; and Bay waters where effluent is discharged and diluted
Lands Needed for Utility Easements	Primarily aqueduct and high voltage transmission line rights-of-way and substation lands, in addition to the previously mentioned utility easements



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

LANDS SUBJECT TO FIRE
HAZARD: FOOTHILLS



lands with high fire hazard

lands with medium fire hazard





CLASSIFICATION D: The Extent of Control Palo Alto Has Over the Various Lands
Within Its Open Space System

The right of jurisdiction gives the City all the police powers in the interest of the public health, safety, morals and welfare such as zoning, taxation, performance requirements such as building and occupancy codes, condemnation, etc., subject only to the limits of the United States and California Constitutions, and the powers of the special purpose districts such as the Air Pollution District, the County Water and Flood Control Districts, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, etc. Subject to these conditions, this right of jurisdiction determines what lands may and may not be used for.

Zoning regulates: Use of property, front, rear and sideyard setbacks, total lot coverage, minimum lot size, width and depth, height of structures, utility easements, parking space to occupant ratio, site plan and landscaping requirements for certain uses and districts.

The right of ownership of private property is, first of all, subject to all of the above limitations of the City's right of jurisdiction (with certain recourses to grievance procedures). This right gives to the owner the discretion of how the lands he owns shall be used and maintained within these limits.

The right of jurisdiction has been traditionally null over property within that jurisdiction which is owned by a higher level of government, say the Federal Government or the State. However, the Environmental Quality Act of 1969 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act of 1968 have been two actions which have changed that immunity by requiring review by a regional agency or conformity to local and regional plans. Currently, jurisdictions with similar level powers such as school districts, special purpose districts and counties have a more limited immunity, the precise limits of which are unclear. These rights of immunity are, however, subject to the limitations of longstanding traditions and precedents.

I. MACRO-SCALE OPEN SPACES

LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
<u>Watershed Divisions:</u>		
San Francisquito Creek (Includes Los Trancos Creek)	Jurisdiction over watershed lands in City	Many owners, San Mateo County Water and Flood Control District for San Mateo portion, and Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control District for Santa Clara County portion
Matadero Creek (Includes Deer Creek)	Jurisdiction over watershed lands in City	Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control District
Adobe-Barron Creeks	Jurisdiction over watershed lands in City	Santa Clara County "

LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
Permanente Creek	Jurisdiction over watershed lands in City	Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control District
Stevens Creek	Jurisdiction over watershed lands in City	Santa Clara County "
<u>Foothills:</u>		
Upper Foothills	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
Upper Stevens Creek County Park	Jurisdiction (waived)	Owned by Santa Clara County
Foothills Park	Jurisdiction, ownership operation	
Lower Foothills	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
Golf Course (Palo Alto Hills)	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
<u>Stanford Lands:</u>		
Lower Foothills Area	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership; County Jurisdiction
Academic Lands	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership; Santa Clara County jurisdiction (partial)
Coyote Hill, Deer Gulch Area	Jurisdiction (partial)	Private ownership; Santa Clara County jurisdiction (partial)
<u>Baylands:</u>		
	Ownership and jurisdiction of the entire Bayfront is presently in question. The State of California, through its State Lands Commission, is pursuing several cases concerning differences between public and private claims and contending public claims to ownership of San Francisco Bay. Some of these might affect Palo Alto's Baylands	
Bay Waters	Jurisdiction	Private ownership, BCDC, Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard

LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
Tidal Mud Flats	Jurisdiction, ownership (partial)	Private ownership (partial); BCDC, Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard
Salt Marsh: Faber Tract	(Immunity) Ownership; Control by right of ownership in another jurisdiction	BCDC, Jurisdiction by San Mateo County
Sand Point Marsh Hook's Island	Jurisdiction, ownership Jurisdiction, ownership	BCDC, Coast Guard BCDC, Army Corps of Engineers, Coast Guard
Flood Basin	Jurisdiction, ownership	Operation by Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control District
Charleston Slough	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership, Jurisdiction by Mt. View, BCDC
Salt Ponds in Mountain View	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership; Jurisdiction by Mt. View
Salt Ponds in Menlo Park	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership; Jurisdiction by Menlo Park, BCDC
Municipal Golf Course	Jurisdiction, ownership	Operation by Private Lease
Refuse Disposal Area	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation	
IT&T Property	(Not in Palo Alto)	Private ownership; Jurisdiction by Santa Clara County
Palo Alto Airport	Jurisdiction, ownership	Operation by Santa Clara County; FAA, BCDC, Coast Guard
Duck Pond and Lagoon	Jurisdiction, ownership	
Baylands Athletic Center	Jurisdiction, ownership operation	
Sewage Treatment Plant Site	Jurisdiction, ownership operation	Joint ownership, operation
Municipal Service Center Site	Jurisdiction, ownership operation	

LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
Commercial and Office Uses	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
<u>Freeway Rights-of-Way (Green Areas):</u> Junipero Serra Freeway	Jurisdiction (waived), ownership	Jurisdiction, operation by State

II. INTERMEDIATE SCALE OPEN SPACES

District Parks:

Rinconada, Mitchell	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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Neighborhood Parks:

16 Neighborhood Parks	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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Special Facilities:

El Camino Park	Jurisdiction, operation	Private ownership
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Timothy Hopkins Creskide Park	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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Esther Clark Park	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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School District Sites (Green Areas):

3 High Schools	Jurisdiction, operation of recreational facilities (partial)	Palo Alto Unified School District ownership, operation
3 Junior High Schools		
20 Elementary Schools		
3 Undeveloped School Sites		

Other Public Uses (Green Areas):

Lucie Stern Com-Center	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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Cultural Center	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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Main Library, Mitchell Park Library	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation
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LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
<u>Institutions (Green Areas):</u>		
Stanford Hospital	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
Children's Con- valescent Hos- pital	"	"
Hoover Pavilion	"	"
Veteran's Ad- ministration Hospital	Jurisdiction (waived)	Federal government ownership (VA) operation
Medical Clinic	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
Various Churches	"	"
Private Schools	"	:
<u>Large Private De- velopments (Green Areas):</u>		
Commercial, In- dustrial, Juris- diction, Office	"	"
<u>Streams and Chan- nels:</u>		
San Francisco Creek	Jurisdiction (partial) ownership (partial)	San Mateo County Water and Flood Control District for San Mateo portion, and Santa Clara County Water and Flood Control District for Santa Clara County portion
Riparian Lands (including Los Trancos Creek)		
Matadero Creek Riparian Lands & Channel Ease- ments (in- cluding Deer Creek)	Jurisdiction (partial) Ownership (partial)	"
Adobe-Barron Creeks Riparian Lands and Channel Ease- ments	"	"
Stevens Creek Riparian Lands	"	"

LANDS	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY CITY	EXTENT OF CONTROL BY OTHERS
<u>Major Thoroughfare Rights-of-Way (Green Areas):</u>		
El Camino Real	Jurisdiction (waived)	Jurisdiction, ownership by State
Foothills Expressway	"	"
Oregon Expressway	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation	
Page Mill Road	"	
San Antonio Road	"	
Freeway Interchanges		
<u>University Avenue Business District (Green Areas):</u>		
University Avenue District Beautification Treatment (proposed to include new mini-plazas)	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation	
Cogswell Plaza	"	
Lytton Plaza	Jurisdiction	Private ownership, operation
<u>California Avenue Business District (Green Areas):</u>	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation	
<u>Lawn Bowling Green:</u>		
<u>Small Scale Private Lands (Green Areas):</u>	Jurisdiction	Private ownership
Residences		
Small Businesses		
<u>City Entrance Signs and Planting</u>	Jurisdiction, ownership, operation	

CLASSIFICATION E: Scenic Qualities of Lands Within the
Open Space System

MACRO-SCALE OPEN SPACE:

SPECIFIC LANDS SCENIC QUALITIES

Note: This material rightly belongs to the Scenic Element of the Comprehensive Plan but is included here as an example of scenic qualities observed in the Palo Alto Open Space System

Upper Foothills	.Rugged terrain, high steep slopes of Santa Cruz Mountain Range with variety of vegetative cover, specifically mixed evergreen forest, grasslands and chaparral. .Grandeur of size and linear forms of mountain range and ridge, breathtaking panoramic vistas from Monte Bello Ridge and sense of overpowering enclosure in Stevens Creek Valley. .Jagged silhouette of ridge and deep green colors most of year.
Foothills Park	.Same as above, but Wildhorse and Los Trampas Valley floors are broader, chaparral is predominant on steeply sloped valley walls. Lake Boronda, a reservoir, usually full of ducks and coots adds to the variety of the park. .Panoramic view from Vista Point includes open view to San Francisco, Mt. Diablo and Mt. Hamilton and backdrop to south and west of higher wooded slopes. .Occasional glimpses of bounding or grazing deer.
Lower Foothills	.The area is characterized by gentle rolling hills covered by grasslands and oak parklands and some cultural uses as well as chaparral covered steep slopes. .Softness of form and silhouette is the major visual characteristic of tree studded grasslands. .Strong sense of sequence of higher and high golden hills mixing with chaparral on steeper slopes with backdrop of deep green forested slopes of linear mountain range.
Golf Course in Lower Foothills	.Same forms as above and adds year round area of green to rolling hills.

SPECIFIC LANDS

SCENIC QUALITIES

STANFORD LANDS:

Stanford Foothill Lands

- .These lands in lower foothills are generally rolling grasslands, used for stock grazing but with oak parklands intermixed.
- .Tranquility and sense of gentleness best describes low rolling hills with accents of individual or clustered live oaks.

Academic Lands

- .Present campus is on flat lands with arboretum fronting City across El Camino. Sense of enclave of buildings in parklike setting with large eucalyptus trees predominant, but great variety of highly formal landscaping of older structures contrasted to random clustering of newer and less central landscaping.

Coyote Hill, Deer Gulch & Adjacent Hilly Lands

- .Unique symmetrical form of Coyote Hill, tree studded silhouette is isolated from greater range of hills.
- .Acts as gatepost to the foothills.
- .Linear stream bed is accented by a row of trees along its course.

BAYLANDS:

Flood Basin

- .Flat and open, tall grasses and occasional bushes emphasizes meeting of distant horizon and sky.
- .Serenity and quietude prevail.
- .Sense of enclosure from levee.
- .Everpresent distant view of alert and majestic egrets.

Hooks Island, Sand Point and Faber Tract Salt Marshes

- .Salt grasses swaying in wind and waves.
- .Sense of primitive and placid nature.
- .Views and sounds of myriad species of birds with occasional mass flocking and circling behavior.
- .Occasional glimpse of Clapper Rail.

Tidal Flats

- .Great flocks of shore birds all feeding together at some prime shell bed or mud flat at the edge of the tide.

SPECIFIC LANDS

SCENIC QUALITIES

Bay Waters

- .Respondent to the wind velocity, seasonal sunlight and tides, the waters are ever changing their disposition, and remain entrancing.
- .The open views across the water with accents of sail boats remain etched in one's memory.

IT&T Property

- .Minimal at present. Stands of high grasses predominate in natural areas.

Municipal Golf Course

- .Flatness accented by mounding of greens and lines and clumps of trees along fairways and between them.
- .Perennial greenness of the course.

Duck Pond and Lagoon

- .Preserve of waterfowl, gulls and coots.
- .Ability to see birds at close range.

Baylands Athletic Center

- .Border and Parking Lot Landscaping.
- .Neatness of well-defined landscaping materials.

FREEWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY:

Junipero Serra Freeway

- . Views of undulating Lower Foothills, awareness of Upper Foothills.

INTERMEDIATE SCALE OPEN SPACE:

SPECIFIC LANDS	SCENIC QUALITIES
----------------	------------------

DISTRICT PARKS:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Rinconada Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none">. Native trees (redwoods, oaks) mixed with newer landscaping, tree shaded lawns invite play, picnicking. Bordered by busy tennis courts, swimming pool, school play area.. Inviting green area as viewed from Embarcadero Road. |
| Mitchell Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none">. Similar to Rinconada, except more extensive open space because of adjacent church, three adjacent schools, open space around fire station, Community Center, Library and Stevenson House.. Has smaller trees, newer construction than Rinconada Park. Winding large paved parking areas, arbor-like walkways of rough poles covered by vines.. Includes recreational buildings, sand boxes, and other facilities for intensive recreation. |

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS:

- . Small islands of green grassed areas scattered through the City with picnic tables, children's play areas.
- . There is a varying maturity of landscaping, some with a mixture of native trees and mature planted trees.
- . Facilities vary from park to park.

SPECIAL FACILITIES:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| El Camino Park: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">. Rectangular grassy field is on one side, baseball diamond on the other.. Densely planted with trees and bushes on almost all sides to protect against distraction of major traffic carriers. Some large redwoods and eucalyptus in groves.. Used for several organized sports. |
| Timothy Hopkins
Creekside Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none">. Part of the riparian lands along San Francisquito Creek.. Chief value is in the enjoyment of its beauty as seen from Palo Alto Avenue.. It consists of the dense foliage of the narrow riparian woodlands along San Francisquito Creek.. Since most of the foliage is deciduous, there are very definite seasonal changes in color, degree of opaqueness and visual importance of its constituent elements.. Sense of peacefulness, escape from busyness of nearby downtown in walking, bike riding on Palo Alto Avenue adjacent to creek.. Some small lawned parkettes and flower gardens along the edge of Palo Alto Avenue. |

SPECIFIC LANDS

SCENIC QUALITIES

Esther Clark Park

- . Undeveloped park. Old fruit trees in a semi-rural setting.

SCHOOL DISTRICT SITES:

Three high schools

- . Sizes of open spaces vary but track and football fields, open grassy sports areas at each.
- . Gunn High School is distinctive because of oaks on grassy knolls.

Three junior
high schools

- . Similar to high schools.

Twenty elementary
schools

- . Almost all are large treeless grassy play areas bordered on two sides by L-shaped buildings and by fencing on the other two sides.
- . Paved areas immediately adjacent to buildings for games

Three sites in Los
Altos Hills

- . Undeveloped. In natural grassland state.

OTHER PUBLIC USES:

Lucie Stern Com-
munity Center

- . Monterey style, low sprawling buildings set around a landscaped central courtyard with small well-tended flower gardens.
- . Old bricked walks are around buildings.
- . Wide lawn between buildings and Middlefield Road.

Cultural Center

- . Low, sprawling dark wood building set far back from Embarcadero and Middlefield Roads.
- . Heavily landscaped with mature trees and shrubbery.

Main Library

- . Adjacent to Cultural Center. Same visual impression.

Mitchell Park
Library and
Cultural Center

- . Two newer contemporary style buildings side by side with mixed evergreen and deciduous landscaping.
- . At edge of Mitchell Park but separated by well landscaped parking lot.

INSTITUTIONS:

- . In general, institutions have intensive landscaping, border trees and foundation planting, and well landscaped parking lots in compliance with Palo Alto's landscaping and site plan standards.

SPECIFIC LANDS

SCENIC QUALITIES

INSTITUTIONS: (continued)

- . Larger ones may have extensive open grassed areas or groves of trees.
- . A sense of privacy and intimacy or quietude is usually developed consistent with the function of the institution.

LARGE PRIVATE

DEVELOPMENT LANDS:

- . In general, large private development land is used more intensely than institutions, and the architecture is bolder and less camouflaged by landscaping.
- . Intensively landscaped areas do exist though, often in places of high pedestrian activity, such as the Stanford Mall or an office courtyard.
- . Border planting and planting related to parking lots becomes more important because of the relatively smaller areas devoted to landscaping.

STREAMS AND CHANNELS:

- . San Francisquito Creek is the largest and most natural appearing of the creeks. It is heavily wooded along its entire length to the Baylands.
- . Where the other creeks have been left in a natural state, they also are tree-lined and dense with interspersed thickets common to a riparian ecology.

MAJOR THOROUGHFARE RIGHTS-OF-WAY:

- . In general, median strips have been planted on these thoroughfares and are well maintained strips of planting with a variety of plant materials including trees, shrubs, grass and ground cover and flower beds interspersed.
- . The setbacks are generally greater on most of these thoroughfares and boulevard trees and ground cover have been planted where possible.
- . Interchanges with the freeways are well landscaped with various planted areas bursting forth with the color of blossoms, flowers, etc., at various times throughout the year.

MICRO-SCALE OPEN SPACE:

SPECIFIC LANDS

SCENIC QUALITIES

UNIVERSITY AVENUE

BUSINESS DISTRICT:

- . Present landscaped appearance of district is one of small boulevard trees and some landscaping treatment related to a specific property.
- . Cogswell Plaza is intensively planted. A grassy area is bordered by a stand of redwoods and another of oaks and several areas of shrubbery.
- . Lytton Plaza, on private property, is essentially a paved area but circular benches have planting and ornamental trees within them.
- . Mini-plazas and courts are integrated with several buildings. Usually there is room for one or two trees or foundation planting or vines covering walls.
- . Proposal for beautification treatment will expand plazas.

CALIFORNIA AVENUE

BUSINESS DISTRICT:

- . A beautification treatment has added intensive landscaping to the area in the form of plantings or paving added to the curb and median strips.
- . Mini-plazas, courts or foundation planting are integrated with several buildings.

SMALL SCALE

PRIVATE LANDS:

- . In general, small scale private lands have intensive landscaping, particularly border and foundation planting; usually a lawn exists in the front and rear.
- . These lands make up the majority of Palo Alto's urban environment; namely, its residential neighborhoods and parts of its business areas.
- . It is in these areas that the greatest variety of native and exotic grasses, flowers, shrubs and trees co-exist and that buildings and landscaping are most intimately related.

LAWN BOWLING GREEN:

- . Small parklike appearance of well manicured open green surrounded by towering mature trees.

CLASSIFICATION F: Ecological Character and Functions of the Various
Open Spaces and Measures Needed to Improve and
Maintain Them

Note: This classification more properly belongs in the Conservation
Element and is included here only as a sample of the kind of
material analysis necessary to develop comprehensive programs
to improve and maintain the ecological values of various lands.

Degree of ecological fragility

Severe	:Extremely limited tolerance to intrusion and change, irreparable damage and near catastrophic consequences if disturbed.
Substantial	:Very limited tolerance to intrusion and change, major damage with long recovery time if disturbed.
Moderate	:Limited tolerance to intrusion and change, minor damage with moderate recovery time if disturbed.
Low	:Good tolerance to intrusion and change, virtually no damage and short recovery time if disturbed.
Minimal	:Intrusion and change which are seen to be actually beneficial. No recovery necessary.

Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
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FOOTHILLS

Upper Foothills:

<u>Mixed Evergreen Forest:</u> Moderate to steep slopes, generally higher alti- tudes of 400 to 2500 feet Douglas Fir, Laurel, Madrone, Live Oak, Toyon, Poison Oak, Ferns <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility: Moderate to Substantial</u>	.Wildlife habitat for Western Grey Squirrel, Plain Titmouse, Dusky Footed Woodrat, Black Tail Deer, Salamander	.Limit human presence .Selective cutting and planting
	.Stabilization of soils, preservation of ero- sion and downstream siltation	.Maintain and replant fire breaks, with fire-resistant plants
	.Photosynthesis-highest level in Foothills, reoxxygenates and cools air, and high level of	.Construct "retention gates" in stream beds to retard erosion

Ecological Character
of Area

Ecological Functions
Land Performs in the
Environment

Measures Needed to
Improve and Maintain
the Performance of
Function

Natural Grasslands: on
flat to steep slopes at
2000'± elevation, peren-
nial bunchgrasses, wild
oats, Foxtail

Degree of Ecological
Fragility: Substantial

retention of moisture
in plants and soils

.Manufacture^s and re-
fertilizes topsoil

.Ground water recharge

.(Forest Canopy) cools
land and slows winds

.Wildlife habitat for
Pocket Gopher, Meadow-
larks, Sparrow Hawks,
Gopher Snakes, fence
Lizards and Grass-
hoppers, Blacktail
Deer.

.Cut back encroaching
chaparral

.Moderate retention of
moisture in plants,
high in soils

.Manufactures and re-
fertilizes topsoil

.Ground water recharge

.Moderate level of photo-
synthesis-seasonal, high
in wet season

.Binds and stabilizes
soils, prevents erosion
and downstream flooding
and siltation

Grazing Grasslands:

Degree of Ecological
Fragility: Low

.Grazing stockfood supply. Increase fertilization

.All other functions as
above, except less suit-
able as wildlife habitat

.Cut back encroaching
chaparral

.Construct water re-
tention ponds

.Maintain grazing

.Improvements as above
to help support cattle

Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
<u>Chaparral Community:</u> Steep sloped, well drained lands with mainly southerly and westerly exposure <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Severe	.Wildlife habitat for Gray Foxes, Merriam Chipmunks, Benick's Wrens and California Thrashers, Bobcat, Wrentit .Photosynthesis - low level, but continuous .Slow winds .Stabilization of soils, prevention of erosion	.Maintain and replant firebreaks with fire-resistant plants
<u>Lower Foothills:</u> <u>Woodland Community:</u> Oak Parklands on flat to gentle or steep slopes at 200' to 1000' elevations, California Live Oak stands with intervening areas of shrubs and grasses. Includes Laurel, Toyon, Buckeye, Poison Oak and Wood Fern <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Low to Moderate	.Wildlife habitat for woodrats, mice raccoon, squirrels, Oregon Junco and Jays, Black Tail Deer .Reoxygenation .Photosynthesis .Stabilization of soils .Slow winds	.Maintain firebreaks
<u>Riparian Woodland:</u> Lands along streams with Alder, Big Leaf Maple, Arroyo Willows <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Wildlife habitat for water orientated creatures such as garter-snakes, salamanders and frogs .Photosynthesis .Stabilization of creek bed, captures silt .Reoxygenation	.Maintain upstream watershed .Flood control measures

Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
<u>Agricultural Landscape:</u> Tree farms, orchards, cultivated lands <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Moderate to Severe	.Photosynthesis .Reoxygenation .Production of food .Wildlife habitat	.Fertilization .Irrigation .Crop rotation .Erosion protection .Fire breaks .Biological controls
<u>Golf Courses:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Low to Substantial	.Photosynthesis .Reoxygenation .Erosion control .Wildlife habitat	.Irrigation .Erosion protection .Fertilization .Pest control
<u>Quarries:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Severe	.Land provides building products for man	.Replant to control erosion, improve aesthetic appeal
<u>Farmsteads:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Moderate	.Production of food .Photosynthesis .Reoxygenation	.Irrigation .Erosion control .Pest Control
<u>Subdivisions:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Habitat for people .Photosynthesis .Sanitary landfill .Reoxygenation .Wildlife habitat for Robins, Pigeons, Starlings, Jays, hummingbirds, finches, doves, owls	.Fertilization .Pest control .Irrigation .Drainage .Erosion protection

Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
FLATLANDS		
<u>Parks:</u>	.Erosion control	.Introduce decorative plants, shade trees
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Minimal to Moderate	.Photosynthesis	.Restrict undesirable animals, weeds
	.Wildlife habitat	.Construct trails, picnic tables, garbage pails
	.Reoxygenation	.Sanitation facilities
	.Slows wind	
<u>Road Rights-of-Way:</u>		
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Low to Severe		
<u>Private and Public Development:</u>	.Habitat, people	.Biological pest controls
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Minimal to Moderate	.Photosynthesis	.Irrigation
	.Reoxygenation	.Drainage
<u>Creeks and Natural Riparian Lands:</u> Lands along streams with vegetation of riparian ecology: Alders, Mapks, Willows, etc.	.Photosynthesis	.Maintain upstream water retention capacity and minimize watershed's erosion
	.Reoxygenation	.Flood control measures
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Severe	.Carries water away from watershed lands	
	.Wildlife Habitat for variety of birds and water oriented creatures such as garter snakes, salamanders and frogs	
<u>Stream Channels:</u> Concrete walled channels to contain and direct force and flow of runoff out of watershed to the Bay.	.Carries runoff away from watershed lands	.Maintain flood control channels and make improvements commensurate with 1% flood where warranted.
<u>Degree of Ecological Facility:</u> Minimal		.Erosion protection
		.Fertilization

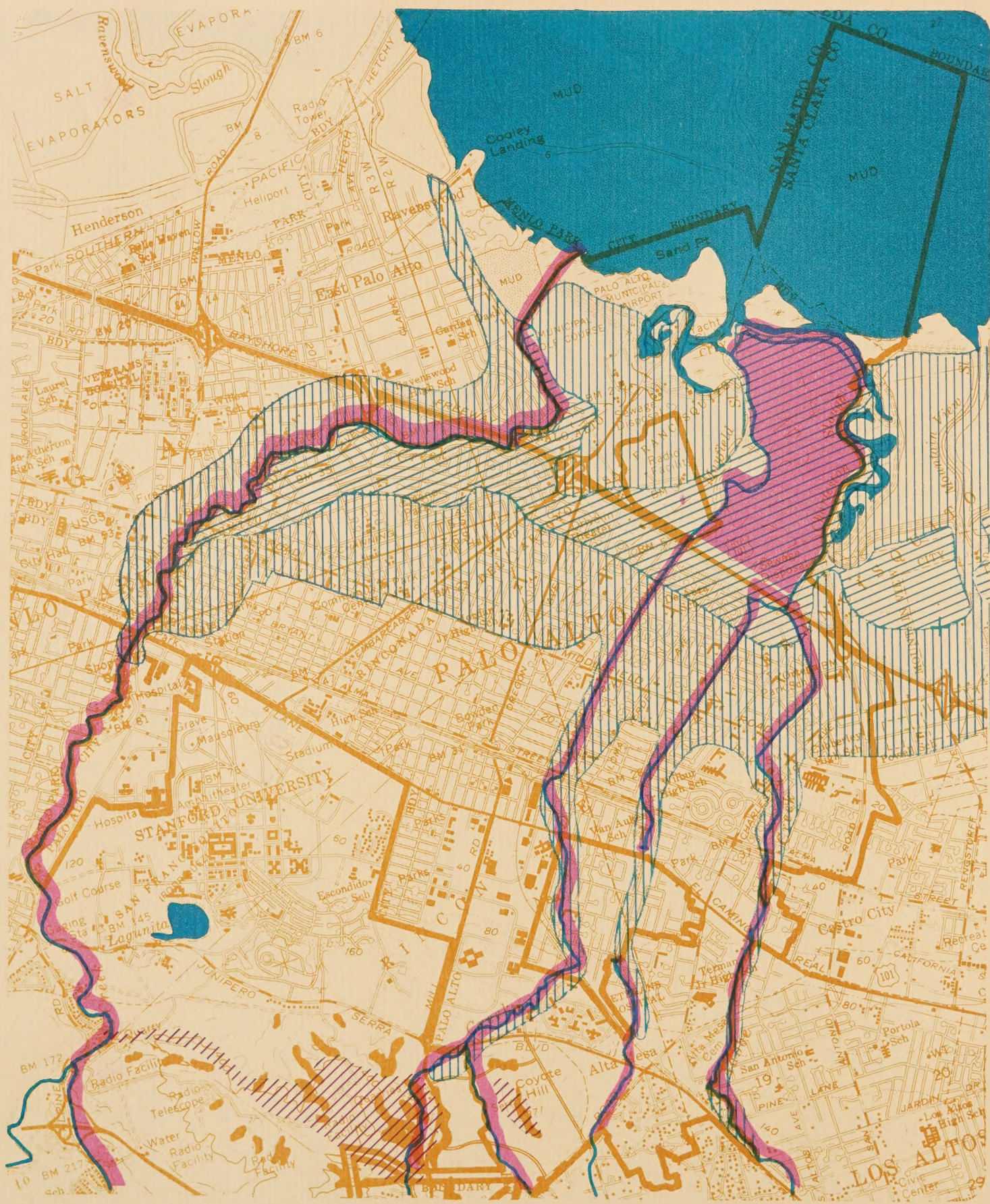
Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
BAYLANDS <u>Waters and sub-merged lands:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Moderate to Severe	.A source of food for bay and Pacific Ocean food chain .Photosynthesis .Reoxygenation .Wildlife habitat, fish, seals, ducks, birds, invertebrates .Cooling of air mass .Sewage treatment	.Maintain adequate natural marsh and shoreline to provide base of food pyramid .Maintain adequate flushing action
<u>Tidal Flats:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Severe	.Wildlife habitat, shore birds, invertebrates .Reoxygenation .Photosynthesis .Food for many food chains of other areas .Sewage treatment	.Limit human access .Protect natural species .Maintain adequate marsh and shoreline
<u>Estuary, Harbor and Lagoon:</u> <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Wildlife habitat .Food .Cooling of air mass .Breeding place for fish	.Dredge .Restore tidal flow to lagoon .Maintain flushing action
<u>Sloughs and Salt Marsh:</u> Faber Tract <u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Reoxygenation .Photosynthesis .Wildlife habitat, Clapper Rail, Harvest Mice, song sparrows, migratory birds, white-tailed kite, egrets, great blue herons	.Replant disturbed areas with native plants .Restrict access of people, vehicles and dogs .Prohibit filling, diking, bulldozing .Preserve communication with tides

Ecological Character of Area	Ecological Functions Land Performs in the Environment	Measures Needed to Improve and Maintain the Performance of Function
<u>Wetland Meadow: Flood Basin:</u>	.Reoxygenation	.Replant disturbed areas with native plants
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Photosynthesis .Wildlife habitat	.Restrict human presence to activities compatible with natural environment
<u>Upland Meadow: IT&T Property:</u>	.Reoxygenation	.Replant disturbed areas with native plants
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Substantial to Severe	.Photosynthesis .Wildlife habitat	
<u>Cultural Lands:</u>		
<u>Golf Course:</u>	.Wildlife habitat	.Introduce native species of plants
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Moderate	.Reoxygenation	.Biological controls of pests .Irrigation
<u>Refuse Disposal:</u>	.Wildlife habitat: rats, gulls	
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Minimal to Moderate	.Building land	
<u>Harbor:</u>	.Wildlife habitat; sea anemones, bay mussels, hydroids, sea squirts, jelly fish, leopard sharks, jack smelt	.Dredging .Prohibit littering and bilge pollution
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Minimal to Moderate		
<u>Duck Pond:</u>	.Wildlife habitat for ducks, geese, coots, gulls and migrant waterfowl	.Minimize botulism type C outbreaks by 1) Maintaining sanitary conditions 2) Treating infected areas
<u>Degree of Ecological Fragility:</u> Low		

NOTE: A complete list of the birds found in Palo Alto indicating whether in the Baylands, City or Foothills during which seasons of the year and fact sheets on various birds, animals, plants and areas, etc., are available from the Nature and Science Division of the Department of Community Services.

Principal contributors from Department of Community Services Nature and Science Division: Linda Knox, John Walton, Larry White.





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

LANDS ASSOCIATED WITH
FLOODING: URBAN LANDS
AND BAYLANDS



lands subject to flooding or siltation
• limits of historic flooding adjusted
for flood control improvements
• limits of possible flooding of 100-
year (one percent chance) flood with
existing improvements
lands contributory to flooding
lands needed to maintain flood control



0 2000





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

LANDS ASSOCIATED WITH
FLOODING: FOOTHILLS

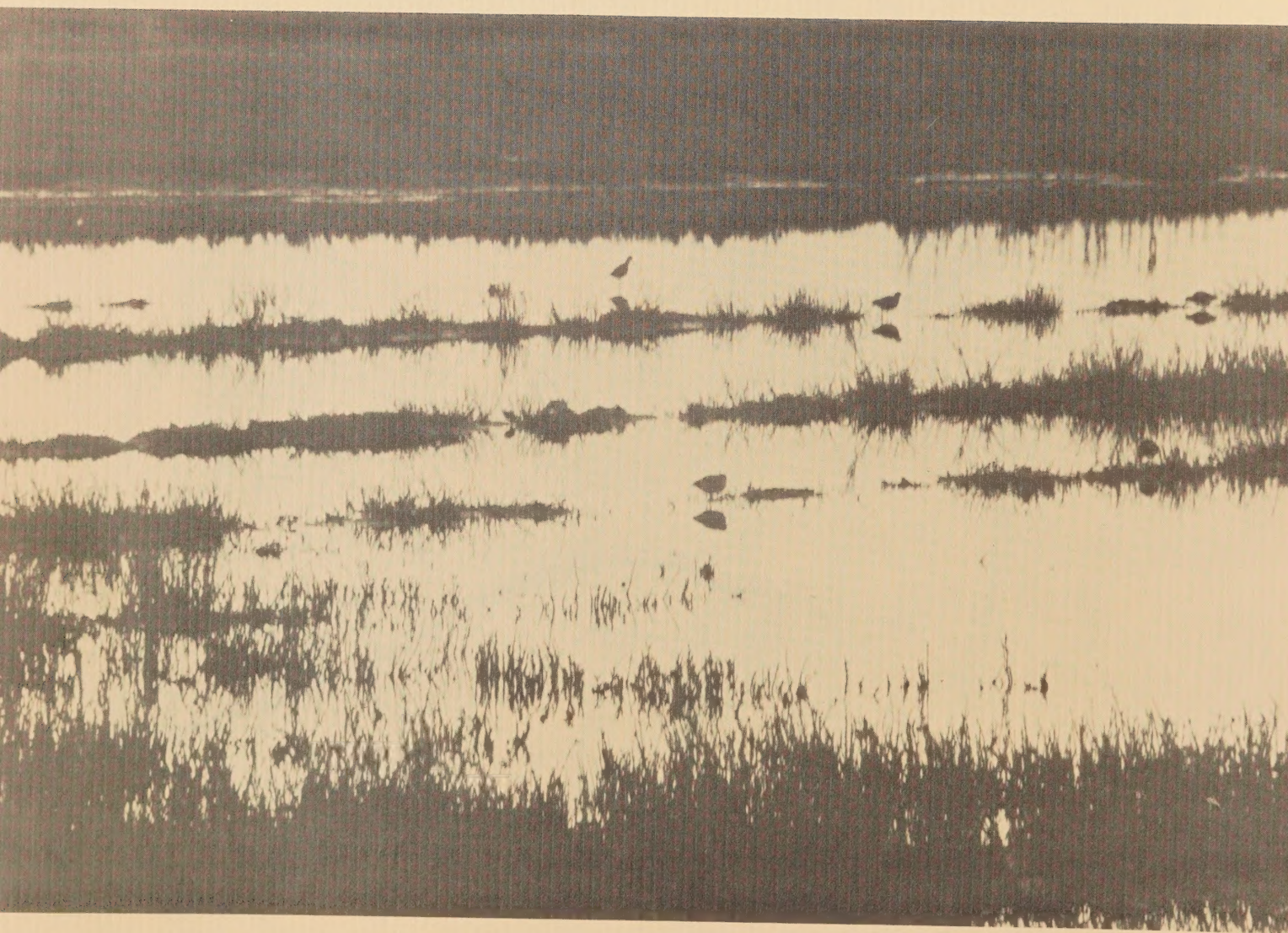


lands contributory to flooding



lands needed to maintain flood control





APPENDIX B: CURRENT INVENTORY OF OPEN SPACE LANDS AND USES, PROBLEMS AND FUTURE NEEDS

MACRO-SCALE OPEN SPACES:

THE FOOTHILLS:

There are several problems in the Palo Alto Foothills area. The factors which make it hazardous to urban development in steep areas are compounded by the presence of seismic activity. The overriding element in the Foothills is the unavoidable fact that the area lies athwart the San Andreas Fault Zone, the major earthquake fault on the North American Continent, one that is still active and, as yet, still unpredictable. The fault zone is not just a thin line, but should be envisioned as two tectonic plates moving in opposition to each other with quaking motions for quite a distance on either side of the fracture zone. Thus, the usual problems of fire hazard, earth sliding and erosion, all of which increase runoff, cause siltation and downstream flooding, could be disastrous if an earthquake were to jolt houses off hillsides and hilltops, fracture and block roads, and snap water, gas, power and telephone lines. The probability of landslides or slope collapse might, in the long run, even be more important than earthquakes because development which erodes or overloads sloping soils will have a continuous and perpetually adverse effect on the slope's stability and the resultant downstream siltation and flooding.

Added to this need to protect the health, safety and general welfare of people from these effects is the need to conserve, and return the area's biotic communities to the indigenous environment of the Foothills without further altering the ecological balance there. From a scientifically ecological standpoint, the so-called natural growth in the Foothills is not natural in that there would have been a burning and clearing of the debris and deadwood of the area from time to time by naturally caused fires. Spontaneous combustion or lightning-caused fires have been prevented or minimized, so that there is presently a greater risk of more intense fires because of the accumulation of deadwood and a resultant likelihood of greater erosion during flooding. Accelerated erosion or earthsliding would destroy the vegetative cover, which is the wildlife habitat of the indigenous species. The greatly increased human presence and activity associated with urban and suburban densities would be intolerable for many mammal and bird populations which would then simply vanish from the scene.

The State has intended that areas which people believe have intrinsic scenic beauty be preserved for this purpose. The Foothills do have a variety of scenic qualities based upon slope, height and silhouette of hills and differing plant associations.

In addition, the State recognized that open spaces, particularly fragile and difficult -to-develop open spaces, should be preserved to help shape the urban environment by "discouraging unnecessary conversion of open space land to urban uses [which] will be of benefit to urban dwellers because it will discourage noncontiguous development patterns which unnecessarily increase the costs of community services to community residents."

According to the Livingston and Blayney report, urban development in the Foothills would be expensive to the City because of the costs of providing utilities, services and new and upgraded roads through the winding, hilly terrain.

The problem in the Foothills, then, for the City, is how to achieve the goals of protecting man, conserving nature, preserving the scenic beauty of the Foothills; how to minimize the financial hardship of the individual landowners involved, and how to avoid imposing disproportionate costs for community services on the rest of the City's residents. The staff has been directed to pursue all means available to achieve these open space objectives.

A. Foothill Park:

Foothills Park provides a City-wide facility combining educational and recreational facilities of a primarily nature-oriented variety with beautiful scenery. In dedicating the park in June, 1965, the Council stated, "It is our purpose in establishing this park to conserve the natural features and scenic values within its boundaries; to protect and maintain the ecology of the area; to provide for the use and enjoyment of the resources found here consistent with their preservation; to emphasize beauty, simplicity and serenity, and to provide opportunities for interpretation of natural history and our local heritage."

Because of the natural wilderness character of the Park, it cannot accommodate large numbers of users without destroying the park itself, and rendering the experience of the user unenjoyable. Therefore, in order to preserve this quietude and the natural beauty of the park, it is open only to Palo Alto residents, city employees and their guests. In 1971, there were 345,000 visits made to the park, which is 70 percent greater than the 240,000 in attendance five years ago in 1966. Of these, 3,500 persons participated in the various programs offered through the nature and science division in the Foothills Nature Interpretive Center.

B. Upper Stevens Creek County Park:

This park is in the Upper Foothills at the extreme southern end of Palo Alto in the rugged Santa Cruz Mountains. While most of the 1,175 acres in the park are within County jurisdiction, over 200 acres are within Palo Alto. It includes a portion of the critical part of the Stevens Creek watershed, namely the steep headlands.

C. Private Lands in the Foothills:

Virtually all lands in private ownership in the Foothills are open and undeveloped with the exception of a few scattered houses, barns associated with grazing lands, and two small subdivisions. There are approximately 6,100 acres of land in private ownership in the Foothills. Of this acreage, 1,425 or 23% is between 30% and 50% slope and another 1,560 or 26% has slope greater than 50%. The fire hazard is high on almost half the lands, particularly those covered by chaparral and most grasslands. The San

Andreas Fault zone traverses the upper Foothills from northwest to Southeast and ancillary fault zones traverse the lower Foothills in an east-west direction.

D. Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club:

In the lower Foothills, on rolling terrain just north of Foothills Park, lies the Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. It occupies 132 acres and is not open to the general public. Approximately 33,000 rounds of golf are played yearly on the 18-hole course. It is visible from several vantage points and is maintained constantly as a green grassed area. The wellwater ponds and green grass provide local cooling and refreshed air through evaporation and re-oxygenation.

E. Coyote Hill:

On Stanford lands, 1/2 mile southeast of the intersection of Foothill Expressway and Page Mill Road, is Coyote Hill. Currently used only for grazing, this strategically located hill is a visually prominent landmark, virtually an entrance marker to the Foothills.

The Livingston and Blayney Stanford Land Use Policy/Plan proposed that Coyote Hill remain as it presently is, retaining the oak parkland quality it now has. Previously, the University wished to develop the crown of the hill, but the report suggests maintaining it as a biological preserve. The slopes and crown of Coyote Hill as well as the land between the western face and Deer Gulch Creek should remain as open space.

F. Deer Gulch:

Paralleling Page Mill Road at the western base of Coyote Hill runs Deer Gulch Creek. The reach from Coyote Hill Road to Arastradero Road is recommended in the Livingston and Blayney Stanford Report for a 9-hole golf course. Just adjacent to the gulch area lies a larger portion of land bounded on the south by Junipero Serra Freeway and on the west by Page Mill Road. This land is a steep irregular hill formation and has been proposed to remain in open space by the Livingston and Blayney Report.

STANFORD LANDS ADJACENT TO PALO ALTO:

The 2,360-acre Stanford University academic campus is adjacent to Palo Alto. It includes the Stanford Arboretum across El Camino Real from urban Palo Alto. This is a large area where rare and exotic species of trees have been planted along with native species. The preponderance of large eucalyptus trees established the character of this flat area which is open to the public. Stanford University owns a total of 8,800 acres in and adjacent to Palo Alto.

A. Stanford Golf Course:

The Stanford Golf Course is located on the Campus at Junipero Serra Boulevard and San Francisquito Creek. The 18-hole course is not open to the public but serves the Stanford community. Academic expansion may force the course to be moved, but it is University policy to maintain a golf facility essentially in the same vicinity as the present one. It is an important open space for visual enjoyment, air quality and urban shaping (as part of the larger Stanford holdings).

B. Searsville Lake and the Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve:

The Livingston and Blayney Stanford Report recommends that the Searsville Lake Reservoir be included in a Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve to create a 1,070 acre preserve. This land is in San Mateo County and its use would probably be restricted to prevent further ecological alteration. Presently, Searsville Lake is a recreational facility, one of the few lakes in the area where it is possible to swim. Ending swimming privileges here may suggest that a swimming lake be established somewhere in the City--perhaps in the Lower Foothills area.

C. Felt Lake:

Located between Alpine and Arastradero Roads south of the Junipero Serra Freeway, Felt Lake is also a reservoir and is suggested to remain in open space uses by the Livingston and Blayney Stanford Report. It would primarily be a biological preserve as well as a water supply source. It is currently not open to the public for recreational purposes and will, in all probability, remain closed.

THE BAYLANDS:

Dedication of the Baylands for park purposes provides for public control and management over the ecologically valuable but fragile bayfront, meadows, marshes and shoreline for the public welfare and allows recreation and other uses. All of the remaining marshes and adjoining tidal flats in Palo Alto have now been designated as Marshland Preserve. These include the marshes at the mouth of Charleston Slough, and the Sand Point, Hook Island, Yacht Harbor, and Castle Island marshes. Some areas in the Baylands have been altered in the past for sewage treatment, a golf course, a refuse disposal site, flood control, an athletic stadium, an airport, and a yacht harbor. A recent public awareness of the delicate, but vital, ecological importance of the Baylands and related mudflats and waters has led to re-examination of past policies and goals for the Baylands. Therefore, the current emphasis is upon retention and preservation of the natural areas remaining in the Baylands, and allowing recreation activities only when they are compatible with these higher priority conservation goals.

Plant zones have been established for the entire Baylands area, as illustrated on the map on page B-19, entitled BAYLANDS PLANT ZONES, in order to maintain

as much as possible, the natural qualities and amenities of the Baylands, and provide a smooth transition between the urban and natural zones. These follow a gradation from a zone allowing only indigenous marsh plants, to a second zone which allows other marsh-related and salt-tolerant plants, to a transition zone which includes primarily saline soil, moisture and drought tolerant natives and exotics on filled lands, to a fourth zone which encourages the use of salt-tolerant plants but allows ornamental, screening and shade plants to blend with the filled land and urban developments characteristic of this zone. A master plant list is maintained which indicates what plants will be culturally and aesthetically appropriate to each zone.

A. Flood Basin:

The 600-acre Flood Basin has been designated as a Wetland Preserve. Its primary use is as a flood control facility, but its use as a wetland and wildlife habitat sanctuary is of major importance. It is one of the few remnants left of relatively undisturbed wetland in the Bay Area. Recreation uses here must be compatible with these two major uses and may include hiking, nature walks, and retriever dog training in limited areas. The present plant community provides a permanent habitat and nesting area for several species of waterfowl, shore birds, and mammals; and wintering or resting grounds for many migratory waterfowl and shorebird species which complement the adjoining tidal marsh plant community. The Flood Basin will be enhanced as a wildlife preserve by selective dredging to create island sanctuaries and mounds and by the introduction of compatible salt-tolerant plants to increase the habitat diversity and food supply and variety. This will allow greater use of the wetlands by each species and encourage other species to inhabit the basin.

B. Hook's Island and Sand Point Salt Marshes:

Hook's Island is an island of cordgrass salt marsh. It consists of approximately 35 acres and is completely inundated by the tides. The Sand Point Marsh is the major marsh in Palo Alto's Baylands, being roughly 120 acres. It is composed of cordgrass, pickleweed and salt grass, successively, from lowest to highest elevations. It is important, ecologically, particularly for its food value, wildlife habitat and reoxygenating abilities. Two endangered species, the California Clapper Rail and the Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, as well as other rare and threatened species, inhabit these marshes.

C. City-Owned Baylands in San Mateo County:

Both the Faber and Laumeister Tracts which the City owns have been designated as Marshland Preserve. The 120-acre Laumeister Tract is an undisturbed marsh, while the 100-acre Faber Tract was once diked and used for grazing but is now open to tidal action, and the salt marsh is re-establishing itself.

D. Municipal Golf Course:

The Municipal Golf Course is located in the Baylands. The 184 acre course provides a significant open space and major recreational facility. There were 91,605 rounds of golf played on the course during 1970-71. This figure is down substantially from the total of 104,000 rounds played in 1968. Since then, two courses have opened, one in San Jose and one in

Sunnyvale. The national economy has also remained sluggish, with the local economic effects particularly acute in the aerospace industry. Usually, 100,000 rounds per year is considered an acceptable maximum number to be accommodated by an 18-hole course.

The necessity for at least one or more 18-hole golf courses in the area has been stated in previous reports. Even though play dropped between 1968 and 1971 at the Municipal Golf Course, the two courses opened in neighboring Santa Clara County communities will only temporarily relieve part of the pressure on the course. Also, participation rates in golf have been constantly rising and are projected to continue as more people gain leisure time through earlier retirements, staggered working days and the four-day work week. The local economy is also expected to gradually return to preinflation/recession form in the future. Finally, there will be, in all likelihood, some population increase in the general area in the next ten years.

Mountain View is planning an 18-hole golf course in its Shoreline Park, which is expected to be completed in three or four years. This course should fulfill the short range expansion needs of the area. Beyond that, a 9-hole short course is proposed for Deer Gulch, and play at golf facilities in the Stanford academic lands will continue, as will play at the Country Club.

The need for an additional 18-hole golf course in the Baylands should be re-evaluated in the future when the new golf courses can be analyzed and the problem of solid waste disposal after 1980 is solved. An environmental impact study in relation to solid waste disposal in the Baylands may also be necessary after 1980.

E. Palo Alto Airport:

The Palo Alto Airport, adjacent to the Golf Course, is a major facility at which a substantial portion of the flights are recreational. It is leased to, and is developed and maintained by the County, and controlled by the FAA. Ancillary to the airport function are clear zones at the ends of the runways to eliminate human presence and clear space for some distance around to prevent collisions with stable objects.

F. Refuse Disposal Area:

The sanitary landfill site of 150 acres is presently estimated to be filled by 1983. Portions can be topped off sooner, but this area will still be needed for refuse disposal if alternate methods of disposal or sites are not found by then. Another layer of 10 to 20 feet could be added which would take care of the disposal needs of the City past the year 2000. This land is dedicated as a public park but specific uses have not been assigned. A golf course has been suggested as one major use.

G. IT&T Property:

The IT&T Property, an area of 154 acres, is presently an antenna farm and is entirely located within an unincorporated portion of the County completely surrounded by Palo Alto. The City has now rezoned this land to "A-C-D", Agricultural-Conservation, Site and Design Control, after thorough study of its natural wetland condition, significance as wildlife habitat, and the costs of overcoming the various seismic, foundation bearing and flooding hazards of the property.

H. Yacht Harbor:

The expansion of the Yacht Harbor as presently proposed will add 280 berths. Presently there are approximately 120 and with the expansion there will be 400. The ability to both dredge and to provide the facilities expansion is largely contingent upon the availability of a site for the dredgings and the availability of County funds. Dredging is done within the Yacht Harbor lease lines and is currently needed to maintain operation.

I. Duck Pond and Lagoon:

An important area in the Baylands is the Duck Pond, a one-acre pond with related sanctuary zone. The Pond attracts migratory waterfowl, as well as indigenous waterfowl and shorebirds. Associated with it is a 13-acre lagoon, formerly a portion of a slough (named Mayfield Slough), which was the estuary of San Francisquito Creek. Previously closed to tidal action, the lagoon, which has stagnated, will now be open to tidal action as a salt marsh demonstration project with the goal of re-establishing the natural ecology of the slough. The duck pond and lagoon are heavily visited by residents throughout the year, but particularly in the winter months when hundreds of migratory waterfowl winter here.

J. Baylands Athletic Center:

The Baylands Athletic Center, one of the recreation facilities in the Baylands, is located near San Francisquito Creek, and is comprised of two ball fields, one for softball and one for baseball. The baseball field has permanent grandstands and both fields are lighted for night play. Other field and team sports can be played there also. A total of 14,531 visits were made to the Athletic Center during 1970-71.

K. Charleston Slough:

Adjacent to, and east of, the Palo Alto Flood Basin is the Charleston Slough. Connected by a common levee, it is owned by Leslie Salt and provides an

intake for the solar evaporation system by which salt is extracted from the Bay. It is approximately 190 acres and is a valuable wildlife habitat area and not open to the public. Just east of Charleston Slough are two salt ponds and a wet meadow area in Mountain View. The salt ponds remain in the Shoreline Park Proposal and have been supported by the Santa Clara County Planning Policy Committee Parks Technical Advisory Committee as possible sailing basins if discontinued for salt production.

L. Mountain View Shoreline Park:

Mountain View Shoreline Park, acquired jointly by Mountain View and Santa Clara County, has been established but is currently undeveloped. Utilizing sanitary landfill acquired from San Francisco, the 550-acre area is planned for a Baylands park including a marina with bay access, a golf course, and playfields adjacent to the sailing basins which may be developed from the salt ponds.

INTERMEDIATE SCALE OPEN SPACES

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, DISTRICT PARKS, AND SCHOOL SITES (Green Acres);

Palo Alto has continuously acquired and maintained parks, recreation facilities and other spaces consonant with the City's population growth, recreation demands, and ecological awareness. The City has, therefore, developed neighborhood parks to serve the local recreational needs of each neighborhood and has developed Rinconada and Mitchell Parks to provide primarily for the larger and more structured recreational activities, as well as some neighborhood needs of the immediate surrounding residential areas. The Palo Alto Unified School District contributes to the supply of recreation facilities within the City by making each playground and other recreation facilities available year-round during non-school hours, and during the summer months.

The Parks and Recreation Division of the Department of Community Services supervises the playgrounds and activities at the school sites and Eleanor and Peers Neighborhood Parks; and other recreation activities at Rinconada and Mitchell District Parks, and at the Lucie Stern, Mitchell, and College Terrace Community Centers.

The 1969 Parks and Recreation Policy Study discussed ways of determining area requirements for open spaces, particularly those used primarily for intensive, structured recreation. The conclusion reached was that area requirements based upon standards expressed as "X" acres per thousand persons could only be a starting point and a very general guide to determining whether the population was being served adequately. More important factors were the nature of the park space, the facilities provided, the programs provided, and the accessibility to the specific population being served. The 1969 Study stated:

"D. RETAIN THE 'ACRES-PER-THOUSAND PERSONS' STANDARD.

The standards of acres-per-thousands of residents should be redefined and retained for use primarily as a general guide

to determine adequacy of park acreage on a City-wide level.

As redefined, the City should now require the following acreage:

Table D, Proposed Standards - Park Acreage per 1,000 persons:

<u>Neighborhood Recreation Facilities</u>	2.00
('Parkettes,' 'neighborhood Parks,' and Elementary School Playgrounds)	
<u>District Recreation Facilities</u>	2.00
('District Parks' and Junior and Senior High School Playfields)	
<u>Special City-wide Facilities</u>	11.00

At present the City has the following acreage expressed in the same terms as above:

Neighborhood Recreation Facilities.....	1.96
District Recreation Facilities.....	2.24
Special City-wide Facilities.....	59.00

Based on the revised area standards, the City is adequately served by both District and Neighborhood Recreation Facilities, with the exception of the general areas northerly and southerly of the University Avenue Business District. This deficiency will be eliminated upon the completion of the Downtown North site, and the acquisition and development of the Downtown South proposed neighborhood facility."

The 1969 Study also enunciated the operating standards:

"Table B, Operating Park Standards:

<u>Type of Facility</u>	<u>Space Requirements</u>	<u>Service Area</u>
Parkettes	1-2 acres	1/4 mile
Neighborhood Parks	4-7 acres 2-4 acres*	1/2 mile
District Parks	20-30 acres 20 acres*	1 mile 1 mile

<u>Type of Facility</u>	<u>Space Requirements</u>	<u>Service Area</u>
City-wide Recreation Park Areas	30 acres 20 acres**	City-wide

*When adjacent to elementary school playgrounds

**When adjacent to junior or senior high school playfield"

The adequacy of recreational facilities, then, must be measured in terms other than mere size and proximity of people to it. In order to analyze where their money and effort should be spent and when and where to revise old programs and introduce new ones, the Department of Community Services maintains attendance records through registration in the structured activities, supplemented by a head count during these activities; and by a supervisor making a rough head count of persons present in the park, playground or facility two or three times a day during the peak hours. Attendance counts are not taken at the neighborhood parks where there are no supervisors.

EXISTING CITY-OWNED OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND THEIR USAGE:

<u>Neighborhood Recreation Facilities</u>	<u>Area (Acres)</u>	<u>1970-71 Yearly Total Visits</u>	<u>Recorded Visits Per Acre Per Year</u>
Alexander Peers Park	4.7	28,687	6,100
Bowden Park	1.5		
Donaldina M. Cameron Park	1.2		
Don Jesus Ramos Park	3.6		
Don Secundino Robles Park	4.7		
Eleanor Pardee Park	9.6	6,963	725
Elinor Cogswell Plaza	0.5		
Frederick W. Weisshaar Park	1.1		
Herbert Hoover Park	4.2		
Henry W. Seale Park	3.2		
John Boulware Park	1.5		
John Lucas Greer Park	5.0		
Juana Briones Park	3.5		
Mayfield Park	1.1		
William C. Werry Park	1.2		
Downtown North (site) **	2.5		
Sub-total	49.1		
<u>District Recreation Facilities</u>			
J. Pearce Mitchell Park	22.0	188,807	8,580
Rinconada Park	20.0	109,893	5,490
Sub-total	42.0		
<u>Special City-wide Facilities</u>			
Bowling Green	1.9	11,547	6,080
El Camino Park	11.5	15,609	1,360
Golf Course	184.0	91,605	500
Baylands Athletic Center	8.6	14,531	1,690
Sub-total	206.0		
John Fletcher Byxbee Baylands	1,700 (approx.)	300,000 (est.)	180
Interpretive Center		23,599	
Programs		13,000	
Foothills Park	1,400	345,000	250
Programs		3,500	
Sub-total	3,100		
Esther Clark Property (dedicated park site)**	22.0		
Timothy Hopkins Creekside Park	10.8		
Sub-total	32.8		
TOTAL	3,410		
** Undeveloped			

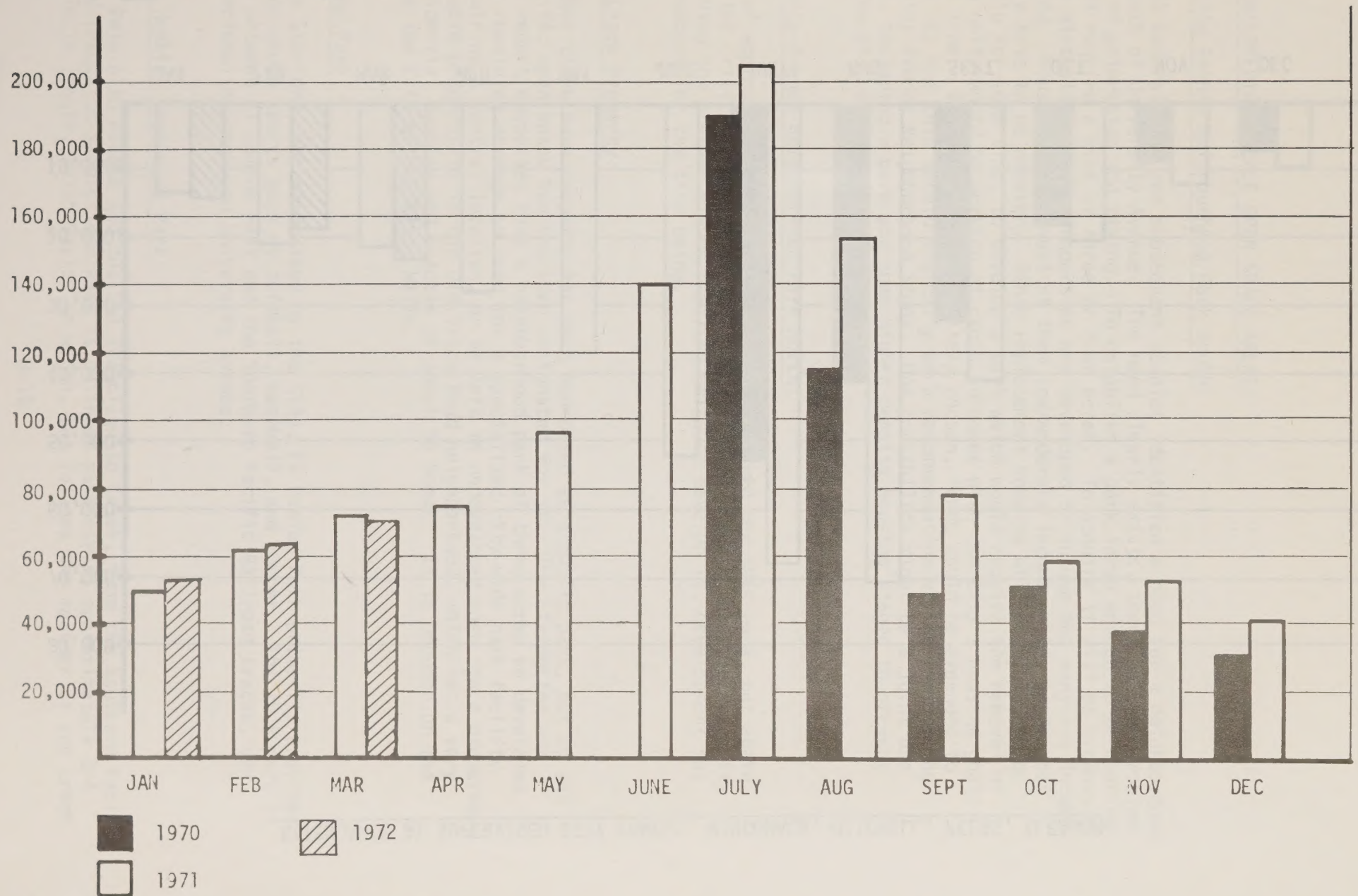
* EXISTING SCHOOL RECREATION FACILITIES AND THEIR USAGE:

School Playgrounds	Recorded Visits			Acres	Average Recorded Visits Per Acre Per Year
	1970-71 Summer Attendance	1970-71 School Year	1970-71 Total Year		
Addison	2,216	4,181	6,387	2.3	2,777
Barron Park		6,428	6,428	2.5	2,571
Crescent Park		7,529	7,529	2.0	3,765
DeAnza	7,849	4,736	12,585	2.3	5,472
El Carmelo	5,060	5,990	11,050	1.9	5,816
Escondido		6,195	6,195	3.6	1,721
Fairmeadow		4,515	4,515	2.4	1,881
Garland	2,289	4,428	6,717	2.4	2,799
Greendell	4,043	5,217	9,260	2.4	3,858
Green Gables	3,503	5,285	8,788	3.2	2,746
Walter Hays (included as part of Rinconada Park)				(3.4)	
Hoover	3,131	5,996	9,127	3.2	2,852
Loma Vista	4,651	3,649	8,300	2.4	3,458
Lucille Nixon (not open)		4,527	4,527	5.0	905
Ohlones	6,147	5,597	11,744	2.4	4,893
Ortega	6,925	7,379	14,304	3.1	4,614
Palo Verde		5,013	5,013	2.4	2,089
Ross Road		6,152	6,152	2.4	2,563
Van Auken	3,565	5,617	9,182	3.2	2,869
Ventura	<u>2,805</u>	<u>3,885</u>	<u>6,690</u>	<u>2.2</u>	<u>3,041</u>
Sub-total	52,134	85,167	137,351	54.7	2,650
<u>Junior High Schools</u>					
Jordan				9.0	
Terman				9.5	
Wilbur				<u>10.0</u>	
Sub-total				28.5	
<u>Senior High Schools</u>					
Cubberley				15.0	
Gunn				22.0	
Palo Alto				<u>18.0</u>	
Sub-total				55.0	
TOTAL				<u>138.2</u>	

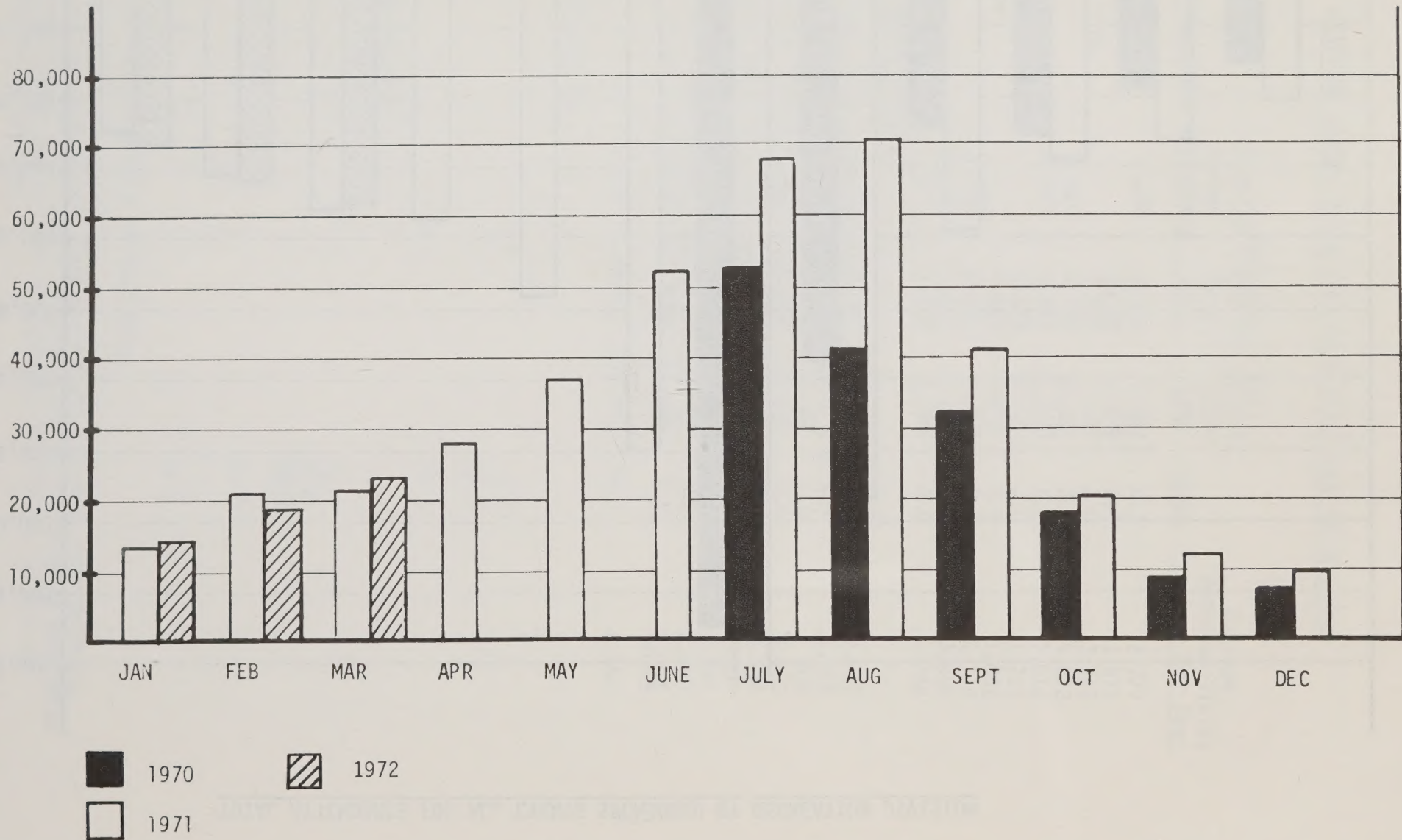
*Within or serving a portion of Palo Alto

Note: Attendance for more structured programs and uses like swimming, baseball, etc. is kept on an activity basis and is not readily available on a locational basis but will be included in the Public Facilities Element, Recreation Section.

TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR ALL EVENTS SPONSORED BY RECREATION DIVISION



ATTENDANCE AT SUPERVISED CITY PARKS: RINCONADA, MITCHELL, PEERS, ELEANOR



OTHER INTERMEDIATE SCALE OPEN SPACE AREAS:

University Avenue Neighborhood Park South:

The 1963 General Plan and subsequent studies identified a need for a neighborhood park south of University Avenue. The need clearly exists, then, but the problem is one of priorities and timing. To establish a park large enough to be meaningful will require a site of three or four acres. To acquire it will be expensive because virtually all the properties are developed or in use and many are income-producing. Housing units, most of them low/moderate income units, would most probably have to be removed. Since replacement housing will probably not be available for some time, to develop a park which would require the removal of housing units would be working at cross purposes with the City's housing goals at this time. If a site were definitely chosen, funds could be expended to acquire it, but this should logically be a recommendation of the forthcoming University Avenue Neighborhood Study. One possibility might be a joint use project, including a park and some higher density housing staged to prevent excessive dislocation.

University Avenue Neighborhood Park North:

A site of approximately two acres has been acquired for this park, but again, due to the critical shortage of low/moderate income housing and the necessity of removing the present eleven dwelling units to develop it, development has been postponed for the time being.

Esther Clark Property:

The Esther Clark Park property has been dedicated as a public park, but as yet no specific open space use has been designated for it. The Livingston and Blayne report suggested that a neighborhood park of three acres be developed and the remaining acreage be used for a specialized city-wide park facility not requiring a central location, or be left in undeveloped open space preserve. The 22-acre property is in the Old Trace Road neighborhood, which has a very low residential density and a total of about 50 homes. It is bounded on the south by the City of Los Altos Hills.

El Camino Park:

Owned by Stanford, but maintained by the City, El Camino Park primarily provides areas for group sports such as softball, baseball, and soccer. The 10.8 park is located between El Camino Real and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, and San Francisquito Creek and University Avenue.

Timothy Hopkins Creekside Park:

Between Palo Alto Avenue and the San Francisquito Creek, from the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks to Middlefield Road is a linear park strip, approximately 3/4 of a mile in length, which varies in width, but follows the meander of the creek

and actually is an extension of the creek bank. Of significance in the park is the location of El Palo Alto, "the tall tree" for which the City is named. This large and prominent Redwood Tree is over 1,000 years old and was used as a landmark by the Spanish explorers who first entered the area.

Lands of Churches, Private Schools and Other Institutions (Green Areas):

Many churches and other institutions have sites large enough to be considered important in the open space system. Quite often these sites are along major thoroughfares, and are consequently highly visible, adding greatly to the impression and image of openness within the City.

Large Private Development Lands (Green Areas):

Commercial shopping centers, industrial lands and office complexes often have extensive open lands and fall into the category of intermediate scale open spaces. Because they generally employ or otherwise attract large numbers of people, their character has a great impact on the imageability of the City. The character of the open lands, the site planning and landscaping, is often as important as the architectural expression in defining the character of the development.

Major Thoroughfare Planting:

Oregon Expressway, Page Mill Road, San Antonio Road, and El Camino Real have planted medians as well as the more typical boulevard planting strips between the curb and sidewalk (excluding El Camino), that Middlefield Road, Embarcadero Road, University Avenue and several other arterial and collector streets have. In addition, extensive planting is present at the freeway interchanges.

MICRO-SCALE OPEN SPACES

University Avenue Business District

In the University Avenue business district, an area of intense pedestrian traffic, there is presently a lack of amenities for pedestrians and a generally nondescript, unexciting visual atmosphere. Both public improvements and private improvements could be made to instill a new verve and character in the area. In addition, outdoor places for pedestrians to stop and rest, or eat, or meet others, or enjoy the California weather are sorely lacking in any quantity or with any regularity. A beautification treatment is needed which will dramatically improve the visual quality of the business district. Public plazas are needed along with smaller, well-designed and landscaped seating areas to fulfill these open space needs.

California Avenue Business District

An improvement program was carried out several years ago for the California Avenue Business District, primarily financed by the merchants and property owners. The forthcoming Central Palo Alto Study will recommend further improvements to the district, and open space and beautification will be an integral part of these programs.

Cogswell Plaza:

Cogswell Plaza is a small park in the Downtown Neighborhood at Lytton Avenue between Ramona and Bryant Streets. At one-half acre it is the smallest of all the City parks. It is generously and intensely landscaped and is essentially used for relaxation and passive enjoyment. Unlike other neighborhood parks, no recreation facilities are provided, but games could be played on the grassy area. It is mainly intended for the shoppers and employees of the business districts and residents of the local neighborhood.

Lawn Bowling Green:

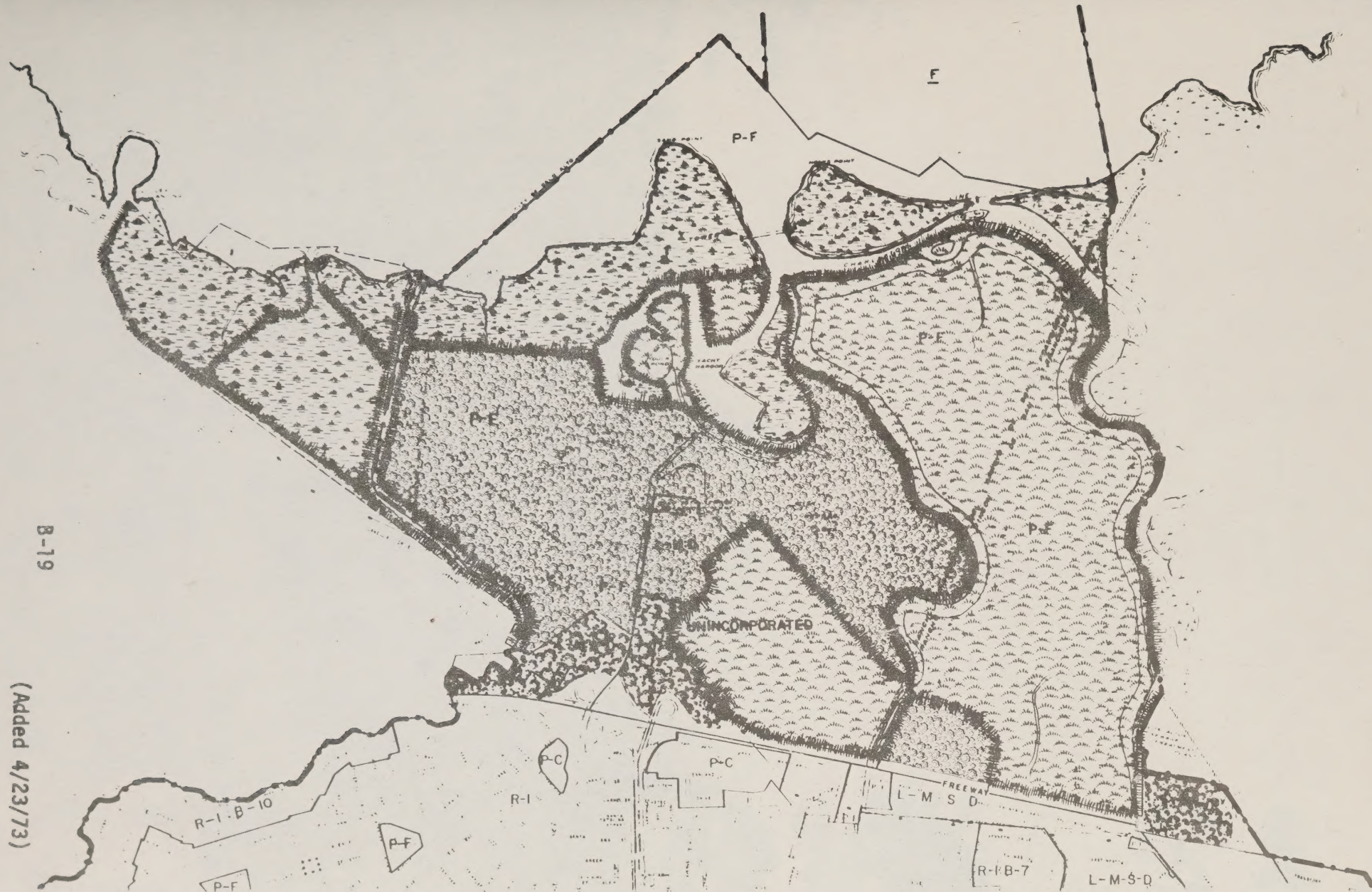
The City maintains a lawn boling green at Embarcadero and Cowper which is extensively used by Palo Alto's senior citizens. The green is 1.9 acres in size and was visited 11,547 times in 1970-71, mainly by the City's elder residents.

Entrance Signs and Planting:

At virtually every entrance to the City there is a welcome sign as well as a related planted area. While small in area, these entrance parkettes impart an identity and degree of warmth to the City's image.

Small Scale Private Lands (Green Areas):

Residences and small business establishments are classified here. Their open spaces are usually intensively planted and needed for light, air, fire prevention and aesthetic and utilitarian reasons. Front yards are highly visible, side yards are mainly for utilitarian purposes, and back yards provide privacy for residents. Even though there is the least degree of public control on these lands, they nevertheless perform vital protection, conservation, scenic beauty and private recreation functions, because, in total, they comprise a substantial percentage of the open lands in Palo Alto.



COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN - Palo Alto

DEPT. OF PLANNING 2-10
1973

BAYLANDS PLANT ZONES

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

INDIGENOUS PLANTS ONLY

INDIGENOUS AND SALT MARSH RELATED PLANTS

TRANSITION - SALT TOLERANT & ORNAMENTAL

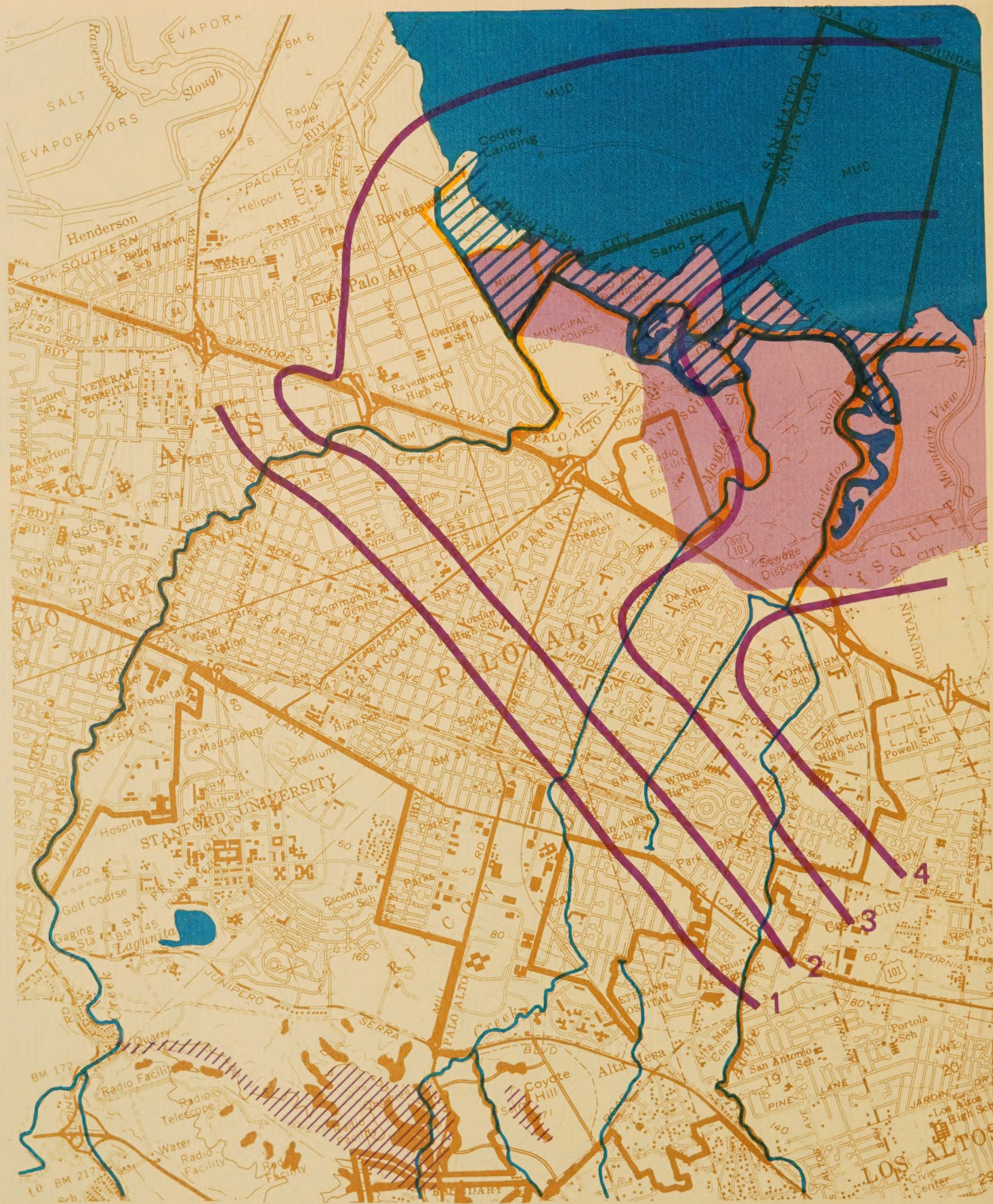
ORNAMENTAL PLANTS



B-19

(Added 4/23/73)





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

LANDS SUBJECT TO SOIL
FAILURE: URBAN LANDS
AND BAYLANDS

-  lands subject to mudsliding (over 30% slope)
-  lands subject to erosion
-  lands subject to compression
-  lands subject to subsidence
-  lands subject to lateral spreading
-  lands subject to submersion





COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Palo Alto

Department of Planning and
Community Development 1972

LANDS SUBJECT TO SOIL



lands subject to mudsliding (over 30% slope)

FAILURE: FOOTHILLS



lands subject to erosion





OPEN SPACE ELEMENT BACKGROUND REFERENCES:

Palo Alto General Plan, 1963
Palo Alto, California

Parks and Recreation Policy Study
Palo Alto, California, 1969

Trails and Paths Plan
City of Palo Alto, July 1968

Policies and Proposals for the Downtown Neighborhood
Palo Alto, California, September 1968

Policies and Proposals for the Trails and Paths Plan
City of Palo Alto, March 1969

Beautification Proposal for the University Avenue Business District
City of Palo Alto, December 1970

Foothills Environmental Design Study
Final Report to the City of Palo Alto
Livingston and Blayney, City and Regional Planners, February 1971

Skyline Parkway: A Scenic Road Along the Crest of the Santa Cruz
Mountains, County of Santa Clara Planning Department, October 1966

Santa Clara County Shoreline Regional Park Feasibility and Pre-
liminary Planning Report, Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation
Department, B. V. Amyx, Director, August 1968

An Inventory of Parks and Recreation, Santa Clara County
County of Santa Clara Planning Department, July 1970

Recreation Habits and Desires of the People of Santa Clara County
County of Santa Clara Planning Department, September 1970

Planning for Parks and Recreation, Santa Clara County
County of Santa Clara Planning Department, Spring 1971

A Preliminary Plan of Regional Parks for Santa Clara County
County of Santa Clara Planning Department, June 1971

Stanford University Land Use Policy/Plan
Livingston and Blayney, City and Regional Planners, 1971

General Development Plan, Shoreline Regional Park
Mountain View, California, January 1968

Parks and Open Space-Financing the Plan, Report and Recommendations of the Ways and Means Subcommittee of the Regional Planning Committee, San Mateo County, January 1971

San Francisco Bay Plan
Bay Conservation and Development Commission, January 1969

Bay Area Regional Planning Program
Regional Open Space Elements
Association of Bay Area Governments, October 1969

Regional Plan 1970:1990
San Francisco Bay Region
Association of Bay Area Governments
Berkeley, California, July 1970

Excerpts from California Constitution in: Laws Relating to Conservation and Planning, State of California, 1969 Edition

The New Open Space and Conservation Elements Implication for Planning, Zoning and Future Legislation, Paper presented to the San Francisco Bay Area Planning Directors Association, by Paul Sedway, AIP, Partner, Sedway/Cooke, February 1971

San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge: A Proposal
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
United States Department of the Interior, July 1971

APPENDIX D: MAP SOURCES

The Department of Planning and Community Development is the primary source for all map designations with the following exceptions:

PALO ALTO AND THE MID-PENINSULA SUB-REGION (base map)

U. S. Geological Survey, "Palo Alto, Calif. Quadrangle" (1961)

URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS (base map)

U. S. Geological Survey, "Palo Alto, Calif. Quadrangle" (1961)

FOOTHILLS (base map)

U. S. Geological Survey, "Palo Alto, Calif. Quadrangle" (1961)

NATURAL CHARACTER: FOOTHILLS

Livingston and Blayney, Open Space vs. Development, p. 34 (1971)

LANDS WITH HIGH SEISMIC RISK: URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS

Due to landsliding (over 30% slope) - Palo Alto Planning Department, "Contour Maps Made From Aerial Photo Survey" (1964)

Due to liquefaction (extent of bay mud) - U.S.G.S./Santa Clara County Planning Department

Due to flooding (without levees) - Santa Clara County Planning Department "Original Marshlands"

LANDS WITH HIGH SEISMIC RISK: FOOTHILLS

Due to fracturing (fault zone) - Livingston & Blayney, Open Space vs. Development, p. 46 (1971)

Due to landsliding (over 30% slope) - Palo Alto Planning Department, "Contour Maps Made From Aerial Photo Survey" (1964)

Due to soil instability (sandy soils) - U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Soils of Santa Clara County - Table II (1968)

LANDS SUBJECT TO FIRE HAZARD: FOOTHILLS

Livingston and Blayney, Open Space vs. Development, p. 36 (1971)

LANDS ASSOCIATED WITH FLOODING: URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS

Lands subject to flooding or siltation (with levees) - Santa Clara County Flood Control and Water District, "Generalized Map of Areas Subject to Flooding in Santa Clara County Based on 1970 Conditions"

Lands contributory to flooding (runoff greater than medium) - U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Soils of Santa Clara County - Table V (1968)

LANDS ASSOCIATED WITH FLOODING: FOOTHILLS

Lands contributory to flooding (runoff greater than medium) - U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Soils of Santa Clara County - Table V (1968)

LANDS SUBJECT TO SOIL FAILURE: URBAN LANDS AND BAYLANDS

Lands subject to mudsliding (over 30% slope) - Palo Alto Planning Department, "Contour Maps Made from Aerial Photo Survey" (1964)

Lands subject to erosion (erosion hazard greater than moderate) - U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Soils of Santa Clara County - Table V (1968)

Lands subject to compression (extent of bay mud) - U.S.G.S./Santa Clara County Planning Department

Lands subject to subsidence (1934 - 1967) - PPC Baylands Subcommittee, Flood Control, p. 8 (1970)

Lands subject to lateral spreading - PPC Baylands Subcommittee, Geology and Structural Engineering Part 2, p. 11 (1970)

LANDS SUBJECT TO SOIL FAILURE: FOOTHILLS

Lands subject to mudsliding (over 30% slope) - Palo Alto Planning Department, "Contour Maps Made From Aerial Photo Survey" (1964)

Lands subject to erosion (erosion hazard greater than moderate) - U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Soils of Santa Clara County - Table V (1968)

APPENDIX E: BAYLANDS DETAILED GOALS AND POLICIES

I. WATER QUALITY AND CIRCULATION

Goals--Water Quality and Circulation

1. Achievement of Bay water quality as approved by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board which includes water quality standards sufficiently high to permit water contact sports, growth of edible shell fish.
2. Encouragement of the establishment of a coordinated system for the treating and disposal of liquid wastes for those watersheds that drain into the South Bay.

Policies--Water Quality and Circulation

1. All liquid waste discharges to the Bay which do not meet water quality standards should be eliminated and ultimately treated for reuse or exported. Reuse of effluent is preferred rather than exportation of polluted waters to the central Bay or the Pacific Ocean.
2. Filling of Bay waters, marshes, and mud flats (or any other activities which tend to reduce tidal flushing and circulation) should be prohibited.
3. Encourage a joint conference of local, state, and federal agencies and officials to determine ways in which the circulation in the South Bay can be improved.
4. The possible benefits of restoring former marshlands to marshes for the prevention of siltation in sloughs by tidal action scouring should be investigated for implementation.
5. A program of salt marsh management should be quantitatively assessed for economic benefits to South Bay water quality (such as oxygenation of water by cordgrass).
6. The existing refuse disposal site should be periodically checked for possible toxic effects on water quality and maintained at acceptable operational standards.

7. In order to reduce that portion of the South Bay's sediment load received from development occurring upstream in the drainage basins, the grading ordinance should be reviewed periodically and updated to insure that it offers maximum protection from sedimentation.

II. ESTUARINE ECOLOGY AND WILDLIFE

Goals--Estuarine Ecology and Wildlife

1. Protection for major parts of the Baylands:
 - a. To protect unique and endangered wildlife by provision of feeding, resting, and breeding areas.
 - b. To provide a living resource area for research and other educational activities.
 - c. To provide an open space land use for the enjoyment of nature and compatible recreation activities.
 - d. To preserve a potentially valuable food resource for man.
 - e. To preserve an important part of the Baylands ecological system which is important for all living species, including man himself.

Policies--Estuarine Ecology and Wildlife

1. Action should be taken to preserve Baylands marshes and wetlands as permanent wildlife areas and to restore wherever possible those marshes which have been destroyed.
2. Public access to observation and/or fishing sites, consistent with the preservation of important wildlife habitat areas, should be provided.
3. Projects should not be authorized which have potentially damaging consequences on estuarine ecology until the possible impacts have been evaluated by a panel of competent and impartial experts. Such projects when authorized should be scheduled in development phases with public hearings prior to the authorization of each phase of the project.
4. In order to protect and enhance wildlife and the natural ecology of the South Bay, Palo Alto should encourage the establishment of a technical advisory team to evaluate detailed planning in and near wildlife areas. A sample of the disciplines that might be included could be a biologist, botanist, planner, marine geologist, and hydraulic/sedimentation engineer.

5. Planning for restoration and recovery of marshlands should be closely coordinated with all efforts to improve water quality and circulation in the South Bay.

III. AIR QUALITY

Goals--Air Quality

1. Restoration of air quality to a healthful level.
2. Maintenance or improvement of climatic factors to protect the quality of life.

Policies--Air Quality

1. Since reduction of water area results in decreased air quality, filling of existing Bay waters, salt ponds, wetlands, and marsh areas should not be allowed except for minimal filling for open space and recreation uses.
2. Filled areas should be appropriately landscaped in character with both the natural Baylands environment and the projected use of the filled area.
3. Noise as a public hazard in present metropolitan areas should be recognized as a problem. Large expanses of open space free from noise should be provided to aid in the alleviation of this problem.

IV. GEOLOGY AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Goals--Geology and Structural Engineering

A high standard of protection for life, property, and public investments in present and future urban development.

Policies--Geology and Structural Engineering

1. Require that any developer in the Baylands demonstrate by the results of test boring and sample testing in depth that the subsurface conditions are satisfactory for the proposed development. Test borings should be commensurate with the type of development proposed.
2. The potential activity of any suspected faults in the bedrock should be investigated and their possible influence on development evaluated in the Baylands and other portions of Santa Clara County. Such a study must be conducted on a regional basis that would extend beyond the limits of the Baylands and therefore would go beyond the scope of investigations that an individual developer could be expected to conduct.

3. Any proposed development should be reviewed by a competent geological and soils consultant retained by Palo Alto.

V. RECREATION

Goals--Recreation

1. Recreation activities and facilities in harmony with resource preservation.

Policies--Recreation

1. The Bay and its open space margins, a major natural resource for open space and wildlife preserve, should have first priority. Recreation and other land uses should be weighed relative to these long term resource considerations with the natural resource taking precedence.
2. San Francisco Bay and its margins should be protected and access to it increased in a manner that is in harmony with protection of that important and scarce resource.
3. Shoreline activity areas should generally be arranged according to distance from the shoreline giving greater priority to those that are resource oriented.
4. The use of dikes for hiking and bicycling should be encouraged with major regional recreational linkage utilizing inboard levees while retaining bayward levees for auxiliary paths and trails.
5. Education programs should be encouraged so that a larger proportion of the population can enjoy natural flora and fauna of Baylands as well as develop skills in boating, hiking, bicycling, etc.
6. Limited auxiliary facilities, such as bicycling, fishing, boat rentals, and food concessions should be permitted where appropriate.

VI. FLOOD CONTROL

Goals--Flood Control

Protection from flooding to a reasonable level for those areas now zoned for urban development.

Policies--Flood Control

1. Any development with the exception of some small scale recreational development should have protection from the 1% chance flood (i.e., a 100-year flood that has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year).

2. Costs of flood control facilities should be applied proportionately to those areas which are benefited as well as those areas which additionally contributed to flood runoff.
3. Land use planning in the Baylands should use floodable open space land uses, where appropriate, to alleviate costs of flood control facilities and to preserve open land and water surfaces.
4. Multiple use concepts which would contribute to the perservation of open space and the provision of public recreational opportunities consistent with the goals of resource preservation should be applied to the planning and design of flood control facilities.
5. The portion of the Baylands below an elevation of 10 feet above mean sea level should be designated as a high flood risk with the objective of warning property owners of the flood threat and limiting future development in this area.
6. Use of waste water reclamation for ground water recharge should be encouraged as one way to reduce subsidence and its consequent increase of flood potential.

VII. DREDGING

Goals--Dredging

1. Enhancement of Bay's water quality for
 - a. Its long term role as a prime natural resource.
 - b. Its natural and scenic beauty for man's recreational use of the Bay and its shoreline.
 - c. Protection of marine life and wildlife habitat.
2. Elimination of pressure to fill marshlands, wetlands, and salt ponds with dredging spoils.
3. Encouragement of alternatives and adoption of design criteria which would reduce the need for dredging.
4. Encouragement of land and water uses which do not require continued dredging.

Policies--Dredging

1. In order to enhance the Bay's water quality for man's recreational use of the Bay and its shoreline, protection of marine life, and the well-being of the North County population downwind from the Bay, dredging should be minimized and restricted to those dredging projects essential to health, safety, and welfare.
2. Proposals for dredging and channel deepening should include an investigation to ascertain its possible impact on geologic stability including the increased potential for ground failure on land due to liquefaction of granular layers and total environmental impact.
3. An intensive effort should be exerted to find a long-term alternate solution to dredging as a maintenance operation for the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor.

VIII. SOLID WASTE

Goals--Solid Waste

1. Management of solid waste activities and planning directed at:
 - a. Reclamation and reuse of these resources.
 - b. High operational standards for the elimination of odors, dust, water pollution and health hazards resulting from solid waste disposal.
 - c. Protection of the ground water system and all surface waters including San Francisco Bay through investigation and monitoring of solid waste disposal.
 - d. Creation of additional usable lands for open space and recreation.
2. Development of alternative methods and locations to present methods of solid waste disposal.

Policies--Solid Waste

1. Further filling of marshlands and other water areas should be prohibited.
2. Palo Alto should vigorously pursue alternative and/or improved methods of solid waste disposal.

IX. TRANSPORTATION

Goals--Transportation

1. Use of the transportation network to include access to the Baylands while at the same time limiting access to areas where the presence of large numbers of people is detrimental to the environment.

Policies--Transportation

1. There should be no new major freeway or transbay access routes east of the Bayshore Freeway complex.
2. Water transportation for goods or people should continue to be explored for possible application, but no water transportation projects should be undertaken which will increase the turbidity of the South Bay or otherwise harm the water quality or natural ecology of the Bay or the Baylands.
3. Wherever possible, utility rights of way (powerlines, water, sewage, etc.) should be combined.
4. Hiking trails, bikeways, and equestrian paths should be considered part of the overall circulation network. Use of paths and trails for commutation between home and workplace should be encouraged for better health and less pollution.
5. Roadways and parking facilities should be subjected to total environmental impact analysis.

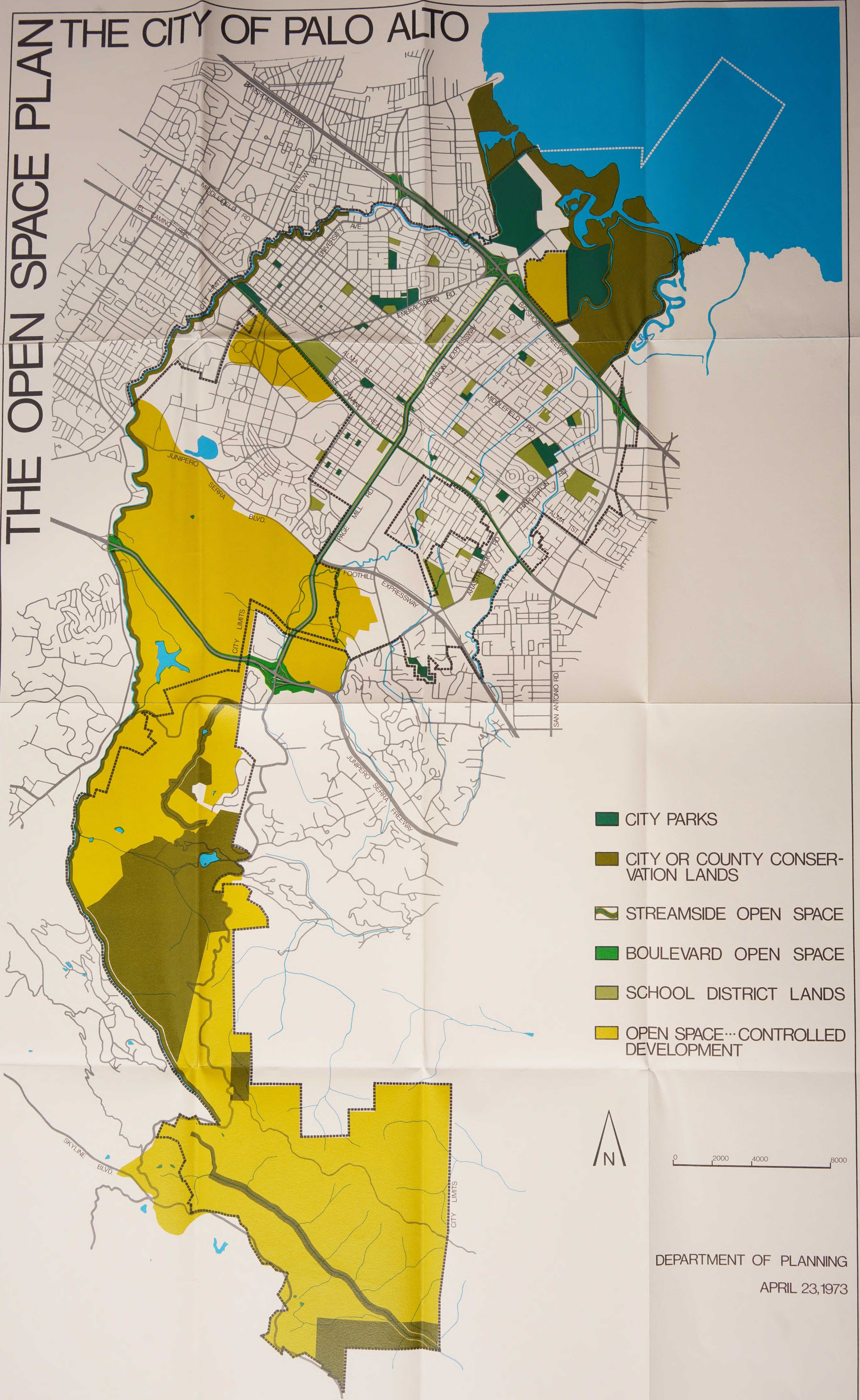
APPENDIX F: MAP DEFINITIONS FOR THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

The following are the categories of open space shown on the Open Space Plan:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Definitions</u>
City Parks	Open space lands whose purpose is primarily active recreation and whose character is essentially urban, which have been planted with non-indigenous landscaping, and which require concerted effort to maintain the recreational facilities and landscaping in a usable fashion.
City or County Conservation Lands	Open space lands whose purpose is primarily the preservation and enhancement of the present natural state of the lands and their flora and fauna, and in which only compatible recreation and educational activities are allowed.
Streamside Open Space	The corridor of riparian vegetation along a natural stream. The corridor may vary in width up to 200 feet. Hiking, biking, and riding trails may be developed.
Boulevard Open Space	The publicly maintained areas of landscaped green space along major streets and highways.
School District Lands	The landscaped sites of the public schools within the sphere of influence of the City of Palo Alto, and their recreational facilities.
Open Space--Controlled Development	Land having all the characteristics of open space but upon which some development can be allowed, providing that the open space amenities are retained.

THE OPEN SPACE PLAN

THE CITY OF PALO ALTO



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
APRIL 23, 1973

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